Dawson Historical Complex

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
OF CANADA

Management Plan

Parks Canada Parcs Canada

Canada

105-05427/

DAWSON HISTORICAL COMPLEX

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OF CANADA

Management Plan

2004

Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan.

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Foreword

Canada's national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas represent the soul of Canada. They are a central part of who we are and what we are. They are places of magic and wonder and heritage. Each tells its own story. Together, they connect Canadians to our roots, to our future and to each other.

What we cherish as part of our national identity, we also recognize as part of our national responsibility. All Canadians share the obligation to preserve and protect Canada's unique cultural and natural heritage. Together, we hold our national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas in trust for the benefit of this and future generations. To achieve this, practical action grounded in long-term thinking is needed.

These principles form the foundation of the new management plan for Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada. May I offer my deep appreciation to the vast range of thoughtful Canadians who helped forge this plan. I am especially grateful to our very dedicated team from Parks Canada and to all those local organizations and individuals who have demonstrated such good will, hard work, spirit of co-operation and extraordinary sense of stewardship. This plan makes specific provisions for the interests of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and emphasizes co-operation and partnership with organizations such as the Dawson City Arts Society and the Klondike Visitors Association. Finally, as part of a thematically linked international network of gold rush sites, Parks Canada is committed to developing a co-operative management regime for this site, tied in to the others that comprise the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park.

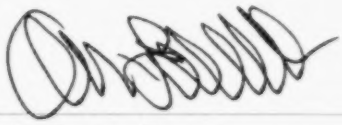
In that same spirit of partnership and responsibility, I am pleased to approve the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan.

David Anderson
Minister of the Environment

Management Plan Recommendations

Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada

RECOMMENDED BY:



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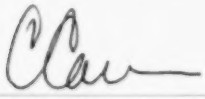

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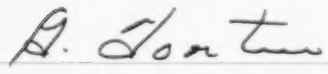

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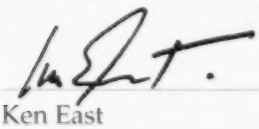

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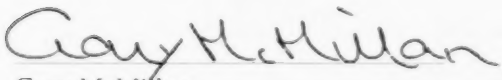

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Dawson Historical Complex NHSC

Executive Summary **1**

Background 1

1: Introduction **3**

1.1 Site Management Planning 6
1.2 Regional Context 8

2: A Place of National Historic Significance **10**

Commemorative Integrity 10
2.1 Resources 11
2.2 Messages 18
2.3 Other Heritage Values 20

3: A Place for People **22**

3.1 Heritage Tourism 22
3.2 Visitor Services 24

4: A Place for Stewardship **26**

4.1 Working With Others 26
4.2 Operations and Administration 28
4.3 Management Plan Environmental Assessment 30

5: Implementation Strategy **31**

Appendix 1: Heritage Property Descriptions 32
Appendix 2: People and Events: Approved HSMBC Plaque Texts 33
Appendix 3: Structural and Communication Values of Building 35
Appendix 4: Analysis of HSMBC Recommendations for DHCNHSC 38
Appendix 5: Level II Heritage Structures 39

Glossary 40

Figures

Figure 1. Parks Canada's National Historic Sites in the Yukon 5
Figure 2. Regional Setting, Dawson Historic Complex 7
Figure 3. Map of Dawson City 9
Figure 4. Approved HSMBC Plaque Text 10
Figure 5. Annual Visitation, NHSC in the Klondike 22
Figure 6. Annual Visitation by Month, NHSC in the Klondike 23
Figure 7. Visitation by Place of Origin, NHSC in the Klondike 23

Cover photograph: Front Street, Dawson City, July 4, 1899

Executive Summary

Background

Dawson Historical Complex is part of the assemblage of National Historic Sites related to the Klondike Gold Rush. The Site reflects the social, economic and political components that shaped the Yukon region over the last century.

In August 1896, George Carmack, Skookum Jim (Kèsh) and Tagish Charlie discovered gold on Rabbit Creek, later named Bonanza Creek. Word of the discovery reached the outside world and transformed the Klondike region and Yukon River corridor forever, as over 100,000 people started out for the Klondike gold fields. About 30,000 actually reached Dawson City, at that time the largest centre west of Winnipeg and north of Seattle.

In May 1959, the Minister, on the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, declared the Robert Service Cabin and the Auditorium Theatre (Palace Grand) of national historic significance. An additional 15 buildings in Dawson have subsequently been recommended for designation by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

In 1998, United States president Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Jean Chretien jointly proclaimed the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park, including Pioneer Square in Seattle, Skagway, White Pass and Chilkoot Trail units in Alaska, Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site of Canada, The Thirtymile section of the Yukon River (a Canadian Heritage River), Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada, and Discovery Claim National Historic Site of Canada.

Current Situation

Dawson City, a northern community of 2,000 residents, is currently a service centre for tourism, mining and other regional economic activity. Over the past two decades Parks Canada has prepared plans to guide development in Dawson and the Klondike Gold fields. Projects undertaken include restoration and furnishing of the Commissioner's Residence and its landscape, stabilizing the *S.S. Keno* National Historic Site of Canada and rehabilitating Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada.

Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada includes a number of historical properties located throughout the community. While Parks Canada provides historical support to applicants to the Yukon government Historic Properties Assistance Contribution (HPAC) program, and works with the municipality of Dawson to ensure that streetscapes of historical buildings represent the era of the gold rush, the surviving heritage structures are threatened by potential demolition (a municipal jurisdiction) and the integrity of designated place is threatened by commercial, domestic and waterfront development. Some privately owned buildings which have been designated nationally significant, and some heritage structures owned by Parks Canada which are not nationally significant are declining significantly, and their long-term survival is at risk.

Several major players are involved in managing Dawson Historical Complex and the surrounding area, including Parks Canada, the municipality of Dawson, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, the Chamber of Commerce, Klondike Visitors Association (KVA) and the Yukon government. The municipality of Dawson has requested that the Klondike Gold Rush historic district, which includes the original Dawson townsite, be designated as a National Historic Site of Canada.

Commemorative Intent

In 1996 Parks Canada developed a commemorative integrity statement for Dawson Historical Complex and other "Klondike" properties managed by Parks Canada.

The HSMBC recommendation for an "historic complex" indicates the intention to commemorate Dawson as an ensemble, rather than a designation of individual structures related to the theme of gold mining, and especially the Klondike Gold Rush. The Minister approved a program which includes the acquisition, preservation and where necessary restoration of a number of representative Dawson City buildings to the period 1898–1910.

Commemorative integrity focuses on resources that symbolize or represent national significance of Dawson Historical Complex as follows:

- designated place defined by the flat of land at the confluence of the Yukon and Klondike Rivers as well as by the original orientation and locations of surveyed street and in-situ structures built between 1896 and 1910;
- continuing cultural landscape including the setting of the various Dawson Complex buildings, their viewscapes, their landscape vestiges and in-situ resources that reflect the Klondike Gold Rush period of 1896 to 1910;
- built resources including buildings, structures and in-situ resources that commemorate the Klondike Gold Rush; they must not be threatened or impaired; and
- moveable resources that include collected objects relating to the commemorative period, managed as cultural resources because of their relationship with shaping the experience and subsequently defining the memories, stories and history of the Klondike Gold Rush.

Proposed Site Management

In managing the Dawson Historical Complex, Parks Canada will:

- actively encourage and foster linkages and cooperation with other authorities and work with stakeholders to ensure the integrity of the designated place;
- maintain streetscapes of historical buildings, representing the era of the gold rush or its aftermath to include the frontier character of structures, unpaved streets, boardwalks, boomtown facades, permanent government structures, and mix of vernacular construction;
- maintain Level I cultural resource building remains, their materials and interrelationships on their original sites;
- ensure new construction/landscape modifications in Dawson are compatible with and sensitive to the heritage character of the Site and are in accordance with Cultural Resource Management principles;
- encourage sympathetic external renovations/construction within the designated place;
- encourage sympathetic development of the landscape as viewed from the town to ensure the maintenance of the original visual relationship between town, river and surrounding hills;
- respect and retain the street configuration of the 1897-98 survey;
- preserve and maintain representative samples of removed historic fabric;
- evaluate all objects/collections according to commemorative intent and ensure access for research and presentation;
- ensure Canadians understand the Site's national significance and role in Canadian history;
- link the Site to the larger program of National Historic Sites and nationally designated persons and events;
- ensure that visitors have access to information and appropriate visitor programs and services;
- ensure Site programs acknowledge and respect First Nations and mining communities in heritage presentation;
- use current marketing information to create opportunities for visitors and ensure the Site plays a role in tourism initiatives; and
- adhere to the policies and guidelines specific to Historic Sites as outlined in the Cultural Resource Management and National Historic Site policy and general Parks Canada program.

1: Introduction

Groups of miners and traders arrived in the Yukon River basin as early as the 1870s. For almost half a century they traded furs with aboriginal people and searched for gold. In August 1896, George Carmack, Skookum Jim (Kèsh) and Tagish Charlie discovered gold on Rabbit Creek, later named Bonanza. When word of the discovery reached the outside world, the subsequent events transformed the Klondike region and the Yukon River corridor. Over 100,000 people started out for the Klondike gold fields and some 30,000 actually reached Dawson City, which at that time was the largest centre west of Winnipeg and north of Seattle.

A modern community quickly emerged at the junction of the Yukon and Klondike rivers. The needs of the miners supported the creation of a supply and service centre. Dawson City, capable of providing the newcomers with English beer, American tools or African fruit, presented a frenetic atmosphere during the first years of its existence. Although built upon a commercial need for supplies and entertainment, there was also a solid framework of administrative and legal infrastructure to support the flow of people, money and supplies.

Level I Buildings Associated with the Commemoration of Dawson Historical Complex

Building	Status	Ownership
Commissioner's Residence	extant	Parks Canada
Post Office	extant	Parks Canada
Daily News Building	extant	Parks Canada
Robert Service Cabin	extant	Parks Canada
Ruby's Place	extant	Parks Canada
Klondike Thawing Machine Company	extant	Parks Canada
A Blacksmith Shop (Billy Bigg's)	extant	Parks Canada
NWMP Married Quarters	extant	Parks Canada
Former Territorial Courthouse	extant	Parks Canada
Bank of British North America	extant	Parks Canada
A Saloon (Red Feather)	reconstruction	Parks Canada
Palace Grand Theatre	reproduction	Parks Canada
Caley's Store	extant	Private
Yukon Hotel	extant	Private
Carnegie Library	extant	Private
Canadian Bank of Commerce	extant	Private
St. Paul's Anglican Church	extant	Church

The Canadian government demonstrated an interest in the Klondike region in 1895. A North-West Mounted Police detachment arrived at Forty Mile to police the established gold fields on the Forty Mile River watershed, to collect customs duties and to monitor the relationships between the miners and the aboriginal communities around them. During the gold rush the administrative duties of the Canadian government quickly expanded. A large civil service was soon in place to register and track thousands of mining claims, deliver mail, and establish direct telegraph communication with the outside.

The story of the Klondike Gold Rush is an exciting and important chapter in the expansion of a powerful Euro-American industrial society. One aspect of the story is the ability of the newcomers to address and meet the special challenges they found in the Yukon. Adaptation of imported mining techniques and social structures, the development of specific legal and administrative forms, and the remarkable individual stories of success and failure are part of this story.

Objectives for National Historic Sites

These objectives are summarized in Parks Canada's Guiding Principles and Operational Policies:

- to foster knowledge and appreciation of Canada's past through a national program of historical commemoration;
- to ensure the commemorative integrity of National Historic Sites administered by Parks Canada (Figure 1) by protecting and presenting them for the benefit, education and enjoyment of this and future generations, in a manner that respects the significant and irreplaceable legacy represented by these and their associated resources; and
- to encourage and support the protection and presentation by others of places of national historic significance that are not administered by Parks Canada.

Commemoration focuses on what is nationally significant about a site, and includes protection as well as presentation. The National Historic Sites Policy states that: "protection and presentation are fundamental to commemoration since without protection there can be no Historic Site to be enjoyed, and without presentation, there can be no understanding of why the Site is important to our history and, hence, to all Canadians".

Commemorative Integrity

Commemorative integrity is a term used by Parks Canada to describe the health or wholeness of a National Historic Site. A National Historic Site possesses commemorative integrity when the following occur:

- resources that symbolize or represent its importance are not impaired or under threat;
- reasons for the Site's national historic significance are effectively communicated to the public; and
- the Site's heritage values are respected by all those whose decisions or actions affect the Site.

For every National Historic Site administered by Parks Canada, a statement of commemorative integrity is developed to focus the management of a site on what is most important; and to ensure that the whole (the "Site") is addressed, not just the parts (the "individual resources").

To effectively focus on commemorative integrity it is necessary to identify and evaluate those characteristics of a site that led to its recommendation by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) and designation by the minister. Level I resources are those resources directly related to the reason for national designation. Level II resources are resources that are not directly related to the reason for national designation, but which have historic value and therefore are treated as cultural resources. A resource may be included in this category by virtue of its historical, aesthetic or environmental qualities.

Figure 1. National Historic Sites of Canada in the Yukon administered by Parks Canada

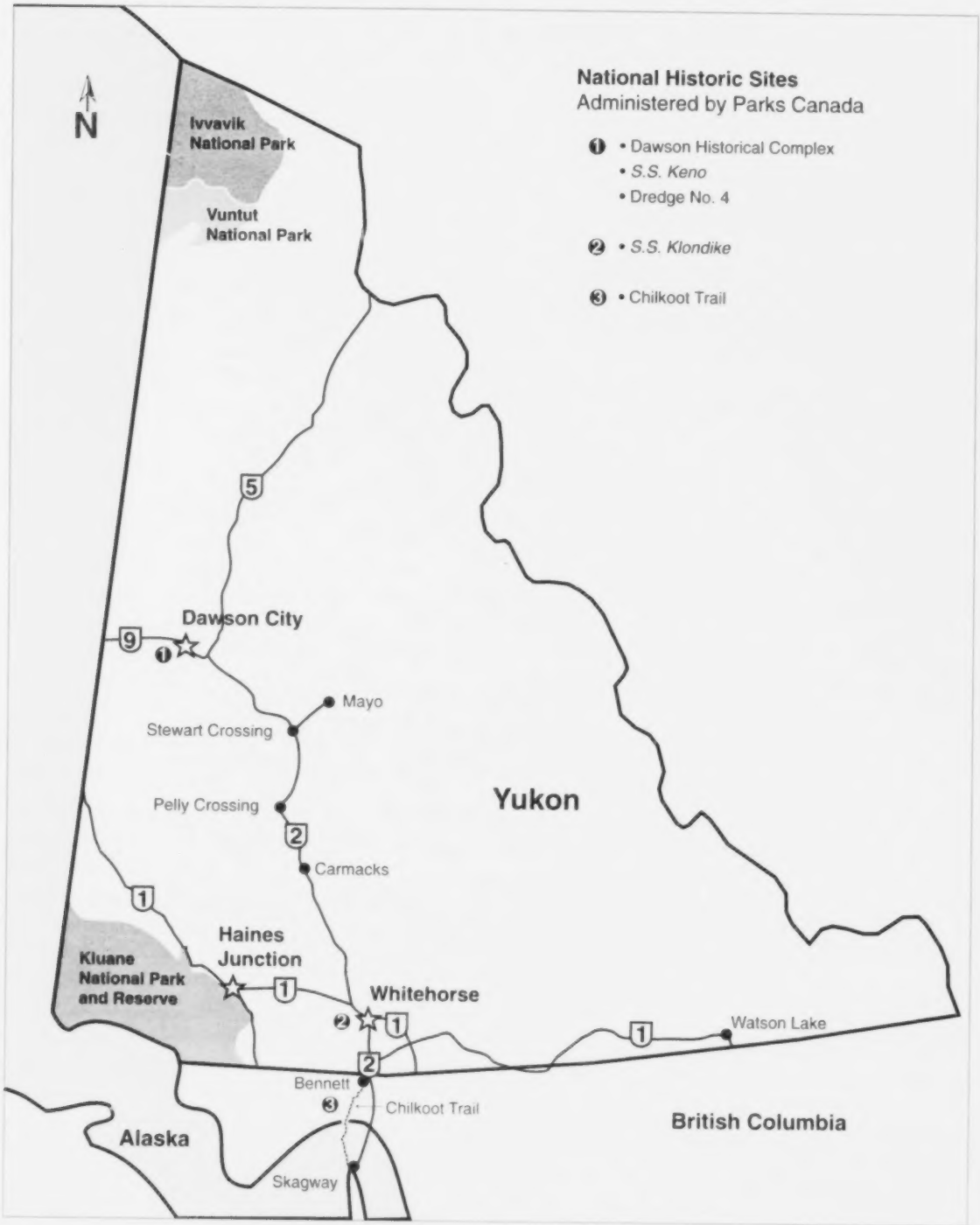
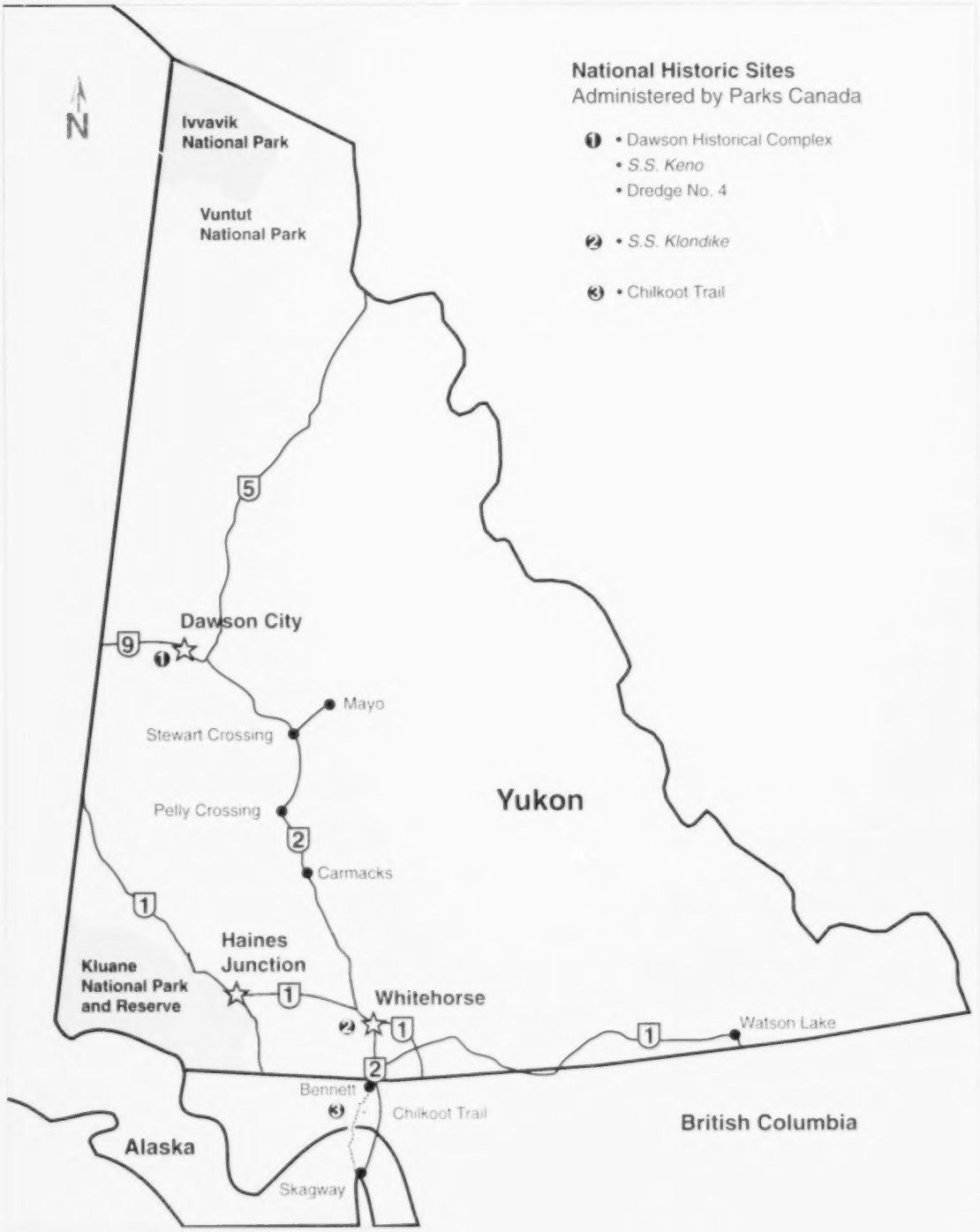


Figure 1. National Historic Sites of Canada in the Yukon administered by Parks Canada



All Level I and Level II cultural resource will be managed by Parks Canada under the principles of the Cultural Resource Management Policy.

A sound grasp of historic value is essential to ensuring commemorative integrity. This includes a definition of what constitutes the nationally-designated place. The Parks Canada Cultural Resource Management Policy requires that resources be evaluated not only for their importance, but as to "what it is that constitutes their value"; that is to say, what particular qualities and features make up their historic character. Historic value can reflect both physical (tangible) as well as symbolic (intangible or associative) attributes. It can be derived from an association with many periods in history, a single episode, or from the interaction of nature and humans.

The final drafting of this document included the development and approval of a commemorative integrity statement (CIS) for the Site. This statement addresses the three elements of commemorative integrity as described above, establishes the management priorities for the Site, and is fully integrated in the respective sections of the plan as the goals and objectives for the commemorative integrity of the Site. Commemorative integrity is also the basis for reporting to Canadians on the state of their National Historic Sites.

1.1 Site Management Planning

The goal of management planning is to ensure the commemorative integrity of national historic sites, and to apply the principles and practises of cultural resource management.

Management goals, objectives and actions prescribed within this document reflect the formal commitment of Parks Canada to ensure the protection and presentation of the National Historic Sites under the direct stewardship of Parks Canada's Yukon field unit. This document also establishes a framework for subsequent management decisions, program implementation and detailed program planning for the Site.

Developing this plan required contributions from many different disciplines, legislation, public interest groups and government policy and programs. The actual planning process is summarized later in this document. The plans will be reviewed in five years from the date of its approval, as prescribed for management planning of National Parks, National Historic Sites and National Marine Conservation Areas in the 1998 legislation establishing Parks Canada as an agency.

Implementation focuses on maintaining commemorative integrity and providing appropriate and cost-effective services to the public. The plans establish an accountability framework which includes:

- **goals** that focus on what is most important in the management of a site, prescribed for key elements of each site as a Place of Historical Significance, a Place for People, and a Place for Stewardship;
- a set of **objectives** or measurable targets for each of the stated goals; and
- a set of **key actions** to be carried out for each set of objectives. Priorities for implementing key actions are established in each year's business plan.

Parks Canada will continue to focus on maintaining the Site's commemorative and natural resource integrity, and on providing appropriate and cost-effective visitor services.

This Management Plan provides direction for the site's business and work plans for the next five to ten years. Parks Canada will use its business and work planning processes to consider the delivery and improvement of Site operations, describe management strategies for plan implementation, and prepare reports on the state of the Site. The business planning process will provide the mechanism to address the goals, objectives and management prescribed in the plans.

The Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada is part of the assemblage of Canadian National Historic Sites related to the Klondike Gold Rush. The sites associated with the Dawson Historical Complex, some with recommendations dating from 1926, consider the social, economic and

political components shaping the Yukon region over the last century.

The first Dawson buildings noted by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) were the Robert Service Cabin and the Auditorium Theatre (Palace Grand), both declared of national historic significance in May 1959. Further buildings were identified by the HSMBC in June 1967. Brief descriptions of each of the Level I buildings associated with the commemoration of the Site are located in Appendix 3.

Over the past two decades a number of planning documents have been prepared by Parks Canada to guide its development activities in Dawson and the Klondike Gold fields. Consultations with the public and stakeholders for this Management Plan began in 1992. In the Management Plan newsletter of March 1994, Parks Canada identified three major development projects on the immediate horizon. These projects were completing the restoration and furnishing of the Commissioner's Residence and its landscape, stabilizing the *S.S. Keno* and rehabilitating Dredge No. 4.

The Commissioner's Residence has been restored and refurnished and landscape work has been completed. Separate and comprehensive Management Plans have been prepared for the *S.S. Keno* and Dredge No. 4. In the March 1994 newsletter, Parks Canada identified a series of other initiatives and directions for the Dawson Historical Complex. These are now included in this Management Plan.

A final draft of this plan was delayed to address new national guiding principles and operational policies for National Historic Sites approved by the federal government in 1994. In 1996 commemorative integrity statements were developed for various "Klondike" properties managed by Parks Canada, including the Dawson Historical Complex. Also included in the "Klondike" properties were the Bear Creek Complex, Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada, Discovery Claim Reserve, and Upper Bonanza Reserve.

The CRM Policy which is part of the new national guiding principles and policies approved by the federal government in 1994, established a new accountability framework for the management of cultural resources.

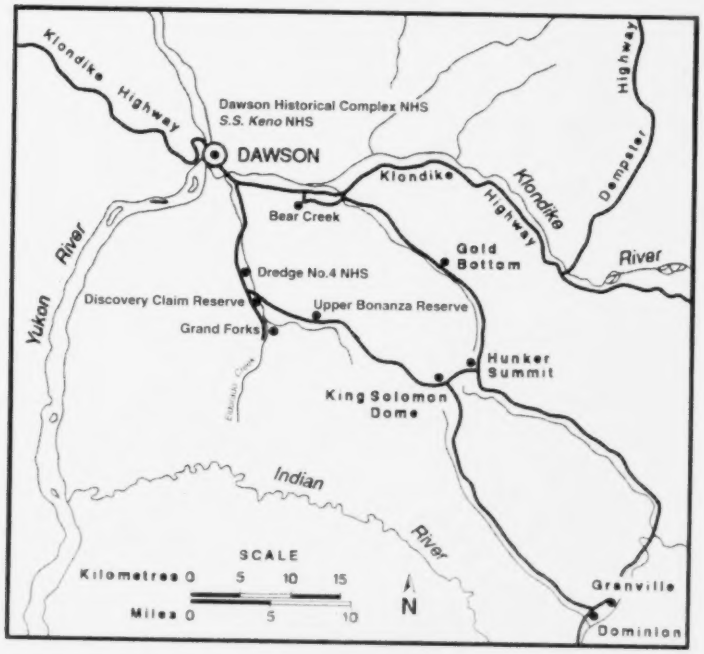


Figure 2. Regional Setting, Dawson Historic Complex

1.2 Regional Context

Dawson City is a northern community of 2,000 residents that serves as a service centre for tourism, mining, and other regional economic activity (Figure 1). The town supports a municipal infrastructure, including a school, fire hall, museum, nursing station, and other community services (Figure 2 illustrates the layout of Dawson City). The Dawson Historical Complex staff live in the community of Dawson City or in surrounding communities such as Bear Creek and Rock Creek, and as year-round residents contribute to the vitality of these communities. With this special relationship, it is imperative that the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada coordinate its future direction with the community and its residents.

In 1988, the Planning Directorate of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada approved the Klondike Valley Land Use Plan. This plan provided direction for the use of Crown land in the Klondike Valley, from crest to crest, and extended from Sunnydale/West Dawson City to the Dempster Highway.

In 1991 the "Official Community Plan" for the Municipality of Dawson City was approved. While the community plan's central purpose is to establish direction for future growth in Dawson City and the surrounding areas, one of the plan's stated objectives is to coordinate with Parks Canada those policies and programs intended to protect the community's unique cultural and architectural heritage, and to support and encourage compatible and high-quality architectural design. The main municipal mechanism to achieve this objective is a zoning bylaw which governs activities in the "Historic Control" area. This Historic Control area, and all new development within it, are subject to the architectural and heritage guidelines in the Dawson City Bylaws.

Heritage tourism is principal to the economy of Dawson City and the Klondike Region. As a result, a considerable tourism infrastructure has been established in Dawson City over the past decade. It includes hotel accommodations, recreational vehicle campgrounds, a wide variety of retail outlets, diverse restaurants and recreational facilities. This infrastructure is complemented by a number of governments and agencies that manage and operate tourism attractions. Major players in this area include Parks Canada, the municipality of Dawson City, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, and the Chamber of Commerce. The Dawson Historical Complex assists in the promotion of tourism primarily in conjunction with the Klondike Visitors Association and the Yukon government.

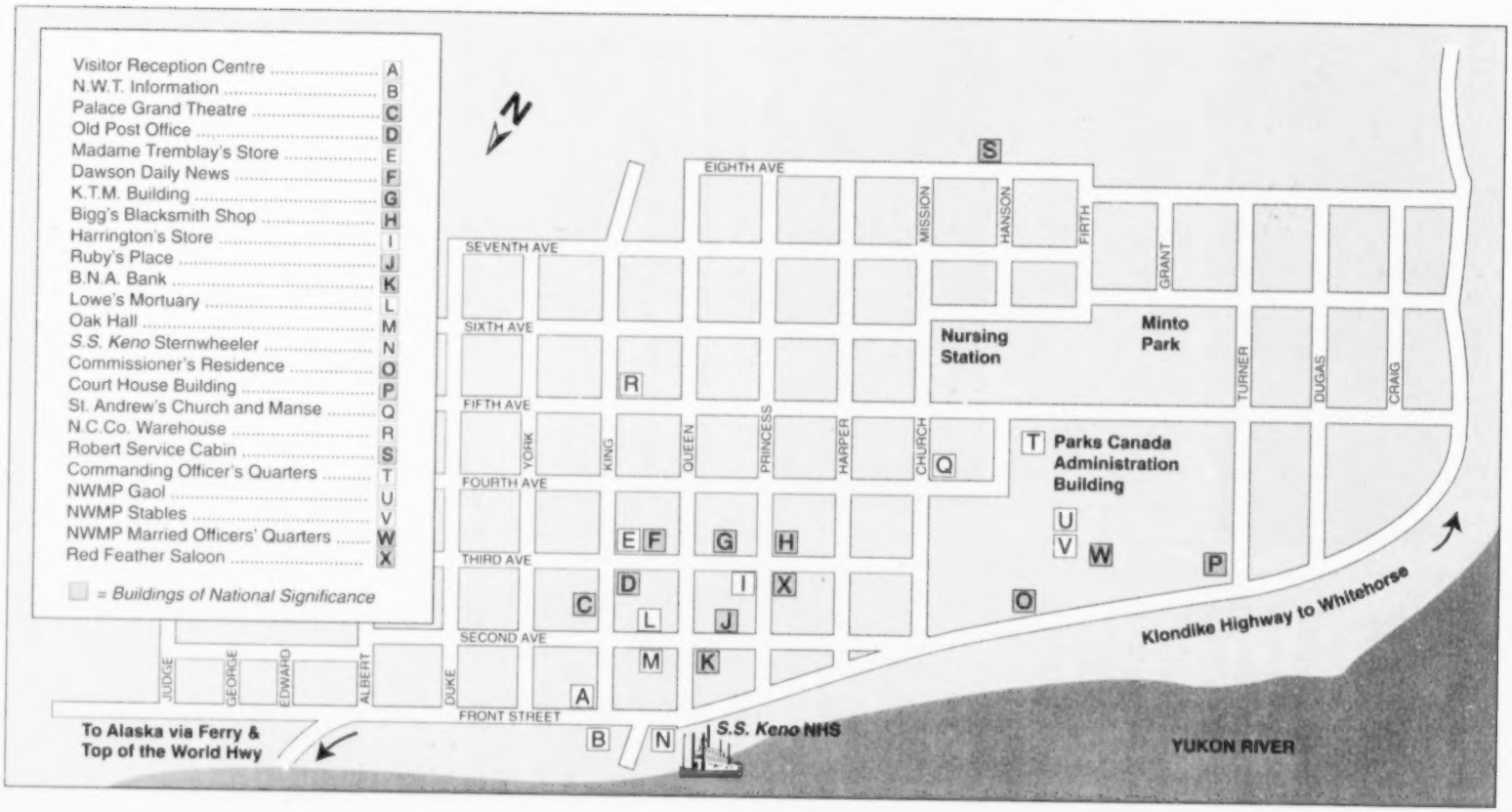


Figure 3.
Map of Dawson City

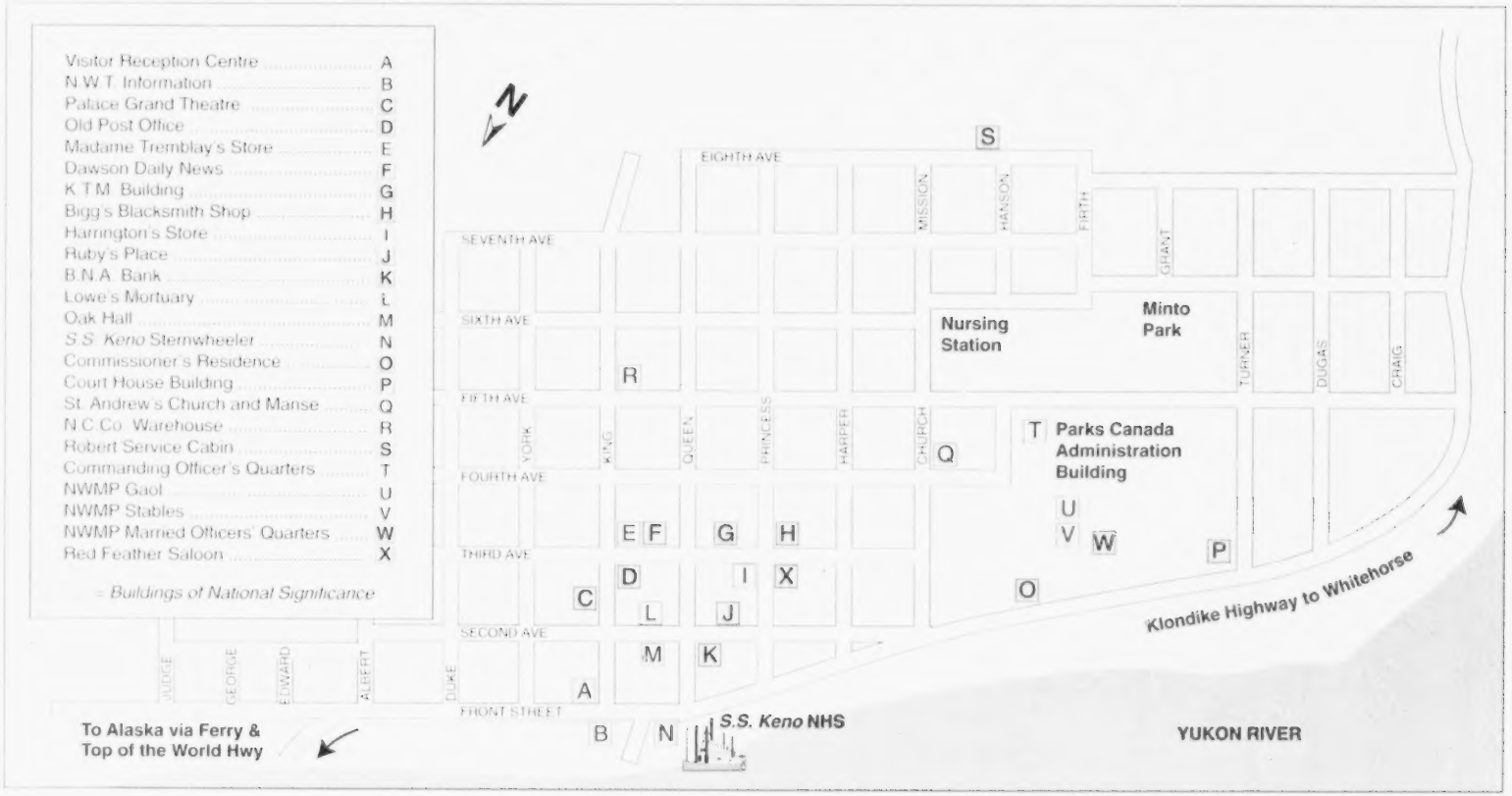


Figure 3.
Map of Dawson City

2: A Place of National Historic Significance

Commemorative Integrity

The *Historic Sites and Monuments Act* (1953) allows for the creation of National Historic Sites such as the Dawson Historical Complex. Parks Canada is mandated to ensure the commemorative integrity of all the National Historic Sites it administers.

ACCOUNTABILITY: As a first priority ensure the commemorative integrity of the National Historic Site.

Commemorative Intent

In the case of Dawson, the HSMBC recommended in 1959 that Dawson be regarded as an "historic complex" of national importance and studied as such. The recommendation concerning the "historic complex" indicates that the HSMBC intended to commemorate Dawson as an ensemble, rather than a designation of individual structures. In terms of thematic associations, the minutes also suggest a close relationship between the designation of this complex and the theme of gold mining, and especially the Klondike Gold Rush.

The connection was made explicit in the HSMBC recommendations of June 1967 that the commemorative undertaking at Dawson should deal with the full extent of the gold rush and its impact on Canadian history. Other pertinent documents include the HSMBC plaque text (Figure 3) for Dawson City, and the texts for particular buildings in the town (Appendix 2), which tend to confirm the focus on the gold rush and its immediate aftermath.

A logical end point to the period of commemoration was suggested in the 1969 Minutes: "*On the basis of the Board's 1967 recommendation, the Minister has approved in principle a program which includes the acquisition, preservation and where necessary restoration of a number of representative Dawson City buildings to the 1898-1910 period*". At the same time, it is also recognized that the impact of the Klondike Gold Rush clearly extended well after this date.

On the basis of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada's recommendations and ministerial decisions, the following statement of commemorative intent was incorporated into the Commemorative Integrity Statement for the site, which was approved in 1997.

> ***Commemorative Intent***
>
> ***Dawson, a historic complex of national significance, is commemorated for its association with the full extent (1896–1910) and impact of the Klondike Gold Rush.***

Parks Canada's primary responsibilities in managing a National Historic Site are protecting resources that symbolize the Site's importance, effectively communicating messages that describe the Site's national significance, and respecting the Site's heritage values. The following sections address these responsibilities for the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada.

Figure 4. Approved HSMBC Plaque Text

Dawson: *While others sped to the gold laden creeks, Joe Ladue put his faith in real estate and claimed this flat. In 1897 William Ogilvie, D.L.S., surveyed Joe's Townsite and his claim was recognized. By late 1898 Dawson was seething with 30,000 optimists who had come to seek the substance of their dreams in the surrounding hills and creeks. Within three years, though a handful had won fortunes from the muck, large mining companies held most of the rich ground, and at least 20,000 stampeders had departed in quest of other Eldorados. Until 1953 Dawson was the capital of the Yukon Territory.*

2.1 Resources

Strategic Goal

Resources that symbolize or represent the national historic importance of the Dawson Historical Complex are not impaired or under threat.

The first element of commemorative integrity focuses on resources that symbolize or represent the national significance of Dawson Historical Complex. These resources have been instrumental in, or integral to, the designation of the Site as being nationally significant:

Designated place: defined by the flat of land at the confluence of the Yukon and Klondike rivers as well as by the original orientation and locations of surveyed streets and in-situ structures built between 1896 and 1910.

Continuing cultural landscape: includes the setting of the various Dawson complex buildings, their viewscapes, their landscape vestiges and in-situ resources that reflect the Klondike Gold Rush period of 1896 to 1910.

Buildings and structures: built resources, in-situ resources which commemorate the Klondike Gold Rush that must not be threatened or impaired.

Moveable resources: collected objects relating to the commemorative period are the cultural resource management focus because of their relationship with the Klondike Gold Rush. These objects shaped the experience and subsequently defined the memories, stories and history of the gold rush.

Designated Place

The designated place is defined by the flat of land at the confluence of the Yukon and Klondike rivers, comprising the original townsite plan as surveyed in 1897-98 by James Gibbon, D.L.S. The flat is bounded by the Yukon and Klondike rivers, and by the ridge culminating in the Midnight Dome, the high hill rising above the Moosehide Slide. Within these physical boundaries Dawson developed quickly into a boomtown of 30,000 inhabitants. The designated place therefore is characterized by the original orientation and locations of the surveyed streets, as well as a series of identified in-situ structures built on the surveyed lots within the 1896–1910 period of commemoration.

In this regard, an important component of the designated place is the ensemble of buildings constructed between 1898 and 1910 which document Dawson's early development during and immediately after the Klondike Gold Rush. In their hasty construction and mix of boomtown facades, these buildings evoke the image of a gold rush town, and contribute significantly to the overall spirit of the place. The buildings document several important aspects of the town's historic development, especially its role as the administrative, financial, commercial, social, and transportation centre of the territory in its formative stages.

Only the buildings specifically identified by the HSMBC are Level I resources, yet all of Dawson's heritage resources of the gold rush era are important to maintaining the sense of place, and to achieving the aims of commemorating Dawson as an "historical complex". It is therefore recognized that commemorative integrity will depend not only on the protection and presentation of the identified primary cultural resources, but on the protection of Level II resources (listed in Appendix 5), and on the involvement of other government and heritage agencies and owners in the stewardship of the buildings, features and cultural resources associated with the commemoration.

The symbolic or associative importance of Dawson focuses on the town's role as the principal administrative, commercial, and supply centre in the Yukon Territory during the era of the Klondike Gold Rush. Locating the town at the confluence of the Klondike and Yukon rivers ensured its key role as the

2.1 Resources

Strategic Goal

Resources that symbolize or represent the national historic importance of the Dawson Historical Complex are not impaired or under threat.

The first element of commemorative integrity focuses on resources that symbolize or represent the national significance of Dawson Historical Complex. These resources have been instrumental in, or integral to, the designation of the Site as being nationally significant:

Designated place: defined by the flat of land at the confluence of the Yukon and Klondike rivers as well as by the original orientation and locations of surveyed streets and in-situ structures built between 1896 and 1910.

Continuing cultural landscape: includes the setting of the various Dawson complex buildings, their viewscapes, their landscape vestiges and in-situ resources that reflect the Klondike Gold Rush period of 1896 to 1910.

Buildings and structures: built resources, in-situ resources which commemorate the Klondike Gold Rush that must not be threatened or impaired.

Moveable resources: collected objects relating to the commemorative period are the cultural resource management focus because of their relationship with the Klondike Gold Rush. These objects shaped the experience and subsequently defined the memories, stories and history of the gold rush.

Designated Place

The designated place is defined by the flat of land at the confluence of the Yukon and Klondike rivers, comprising the original townsite plan as surveyed in 1897-98 by James Gibbon, D.L.S. The flat is bounded by the Yukon and Klondike rivers, and by the ridge culminating in the Midnight Dome, the high hill rising above the Moosehide Slide. Within these physical boundaries Dawson developed quickly into a boomtown of 30,000 inhabitants. The designated place therefore is characterized by the original orientation and locations of the surveyed streets, as well as a series of identified in-situ structures built on the surveyed lots within the 1896–1910 period of commemoration.

In this regard, an important component of the designated place is the ensemble of buildings constructed between 1898 and 1910 which document Dawson's early development during and immediately after the Klondike Gold Rush. In their hasty construction and mix of boomtown facades, these buildings evoke the image of a gold rush town, and contribute significantly to the overall spirit of the place. The buildings document several important aspects of the town's historic development, especially its role as the administrative, financial, commercial, social, and transportation centre of the territory in its formative stages.

Only the buildings specifically identified by the HSMBC are Level I resources, yet all of Dawson's heritage resources of the gold rush era are important to maintaining the sense of place, and to achieving the aims of commemorating Dawson as an "historical complex". It is therefore recognized that commemorative integrity will depend not only on the protection and presentation of the identified primary cultural resources, but on the protection of Level II resources (listed in Appendix 5), and on the involvement of other government and heritage agencies and owners in the stewardship of the buildings, features and cultural resources associated with the commemoration.

The symbolic or associative importance of Dawson focuses on the town's role as the principal administrative, commercial, and supply centre in the Yukon Territory during the era of the Klondike Gold Rush. Locating the town at the confluence of the Klondike and Yukon rivers ensured its key role as the

staging centre for gold mining activity, in equipping and distributing prospectors and their equipment to the gold fields, in providing the administrative and commercial infrastructure to support mining during and after the gold rush, and in connecting this mining community to the outside world. The associative values pertain to two aspects of commemorative intent:

- the association of Dawson with the full extent of the gold rush as represented in the associations of individual buildings with administrative, transportation, communication, commercial, service, financial, religious, literary and social functions, and the town's relationship to the surrounding gold fields, gold mining, and transportation connections to the outside world by road, rail and river;
- the association of Dawson with the general impacts of the Klondike Gold Rush, including:
  - Dawson as a reflection of the character of the Klondike Gold Rush and its impacts;
  - the impact of the gold rush on the development of the Yukon Territory; and
  - the impact of Dawson and the gold rush on the collective imagination of Canadians.

Historic panoramic view of Dawson (Yukon Archives 5655)

Further associative values relate to the isolated wilderness setting and its impact on the town's development. This is defined by the following:

- undeveloped and rugged terrain around Dawson, represented in the Midnight Dome and surrounding hills, rivers and the Moosehide Slide
- the viewscapes of the regional landscape from the town; and
- extreme climatic conditions, including permafrost.

The physical values of the commemorated designated place comprise the following characteristics:

- the flat of land bounded by the confluence of the Klondike and Yukon rivers and bordered by the hills, which established the physical boundaries of the townsite;
- the plot of the 1897–98 survey, with its grid street layout and orientation of buildings;
- the historical complex of buildings featuring those identified by the HSMBC, townscape features and continuing cultural landscape associated with the period of commemoration; and
- streetscapes of historical buildings which as a historical complex contribute to the overall sense of place (the frontier character of structures, unpaved streets, boardwalks, collection of boomtown facades, permanent government structures, and mix of vernacular construction techniques).

Objectives

- encourage and foster cooperation with other authorities to advocate for and ensure the integrity of the designated place (such as historic control bylaws of Dawson and territorial heritage legislation);
- maintain streetscapes of historical buildings representing the era of the gold rush or its aftermath;
- maintain Level I cultural resource building remains on their original sites, along with their materials and interrelationships;
- encourage new construction/landscape modifications in Dawson that are compatible with and sensitive to the heritage character of the Site and are in accordance with Cultural Resource Management principles;
- encourage sympathetic external renovations and/or constructions within the designated place;
- encourage sympathetic development of the landscape as viewed from the town to ensure the maintenance of the original visual relationship between town, river and surrounding hills; and
- respect and retain the street configuration of the 1897-98 survey.

Current Situation

Dawson Historical complex includes a number of historical properties scattered throughout a living community. This leads to a wide variety of threats to the integrity of designated place, including commercial and domestic development, and waterfront development.

Parks Canada provides historical support for applicants to the Yukon government Historic Properties Assistance Contribution program (HPAC), and works with the City of Dawson to ensure that the streetscapes of historical buildings represent the era of the gold rush. The city has a bylaw to regulate the design of new buildings and renovations to historic structures. There are plans to revise the historic guidelines for construction and renovation. There are no provisions to regulate the demolition of historic structures. The City of Dawson is currently applying for national historic district status for the community.

A recently completed land claims agreement with the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in stipulates Parks Canada involvement in the development of a Management Plan for Tr'ochëk Heritage Site.

The condition of some privately owned Level I buildings is declining and their long-term survival is therefore at risk. The condition of Level II Parks Canada owned buildings in Dawson Historical Complex is declining significantly. As a result, the maintenance of historic streetscapes and the sense of designated place are at risk.

KEY ACTIONS

- ***collaborate with the town planning board and other community planning agencies to promote public support and compliance with legislative/regulatory authority and design guidelines that support and ensure the integrity of designated place;***
- ***encourage and actively solicit changes to legislative/regulatory authority and design guidelines which support and ensure the integrity of designated place;***
- ***work co-operatively with the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in to develop and implement a Management Plan for Tr'ochëk Heritage Site;***
- ***demonstrate leadership and collaborate with other owners of Level I cultural resources to define and protect the heritage defining features of these resources, and to support and enhance the integrity of designated place;***

- *monitor, assess and take appropriate actions to mitigate impacts on the integrity of designated place;*
- *assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:*
  - *present the commemorative values of designated place, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these values, and to monitor understanding of these values; and*
  - *offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs, developed to gain a broad public and client understanding of the values of designated place; and*
- *Protect and present all Level I and Level II structures as integral parts of the designated place for the Dawson Historical Complex.*

Continuing Cultural Landscape

In addition to the designated place, buildings, structures and collections, a large number of landscape vestiges are essential to documenting the Site's history. The vestiges include traces of former buildings, roads, railways and other structures, both above and below the present surface of the ground, within the plot of land of the original survey of Dawson.

West's Boiler Shop

Objectives

- identify, protect and maintain the vestiges of former buildings which are managed by Parks Canada and which relate to the commemorative intent; and
- identify, protect and maintain the continuing cultural landscape related to commemorative intent managed by other partners.

Current Situation

In proposing any interventions on Parks Canada-owned property, impacts upon the continuing cultural landscape are considered before the work is implemented. Landscape vestiges on property not owned by Parks Canada are at risk because development is the responsibility of individual property owners. The City of Dawson has no bylaws protecting landscape vestiges that are owned or managed by other landowners.

KEY ACTIONS.

- *demonstrate leadership, and collaborate with other authorities and land owners to identify, record and protect the continuing cultural landscape within the Site;*
- *assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:*
  - *present the heritage values of the continuing cultural landscape, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these values, and to monitor public understanding of these values; and*
  - *offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs, developed to gain a broad public and client understanding of the heritage values of the continuing cultural landscape.*

Buildings and Structures

The value of the buildings and structures resides in their documentation and representation of a variety of architectural styles and building types. These are typical of Dawson's role as the major administrative, commercial, financial, supply and transportation centre during the Klondike Gold Rush. Among the physical characteristics of the buildings which define their national historic significance are:

- evidence of hasty and impermanent construction, to meet immediate functional needs;
- the arrangement of commercial buildings cheek-by-jowl, without side yards;
- evidence of wood frame (either plank or platform framing) and log construction;
- the distinctive and somewhat eclectic mix of Victorian and Edwardian components on vernacular buildings;
- the prevalence of additions and continuing renovations to existing structures, reflecting rapid changes in ownership and use patterns in the gold rush era;
- boomtown false fronts;
- a mix of forms of exterior cladding, including prefabricated wooden or pressed-metal exteriors;
- the form and massing of buildings on their original location, orientation and siting; and
- original roof coverings.

Commissioner's Residence

Objectives

- preserve and maintain Level I cultural resources on their original sites;
- preserve and maintain the documentation of designated buildings, including heritage recording, restoration/stabilization specifications and work carried out, maintenance specifications and Federal Heritage Building Review Office interventions;
- preserve and maintain, for reference purposes, representative samples of removed historic fabric;
- preserve and maintain heritage-defining elements for individual buildings;
- preserve and maintain the physical integrity of the buildings and ensure they are managed in accordance with Cultural Resource Management policy; and
- encourage and support partners to protect and maintain structures in their care.

Current Situation

The management of historical buildings is guided by the Cultural Resource Management Policy, and Federal Heritage Building Review Office guidelines. The condition of some privately owned Level I buildings is declining and their long-term survival is therefore at risk.

Parks Canada has assembled and maintains extensive records for its built resources.

The city has a bylaw to regulate the design of buildings and renovations to historic structures. There are plans to revise the historic guidelines for construction and renovation. There are no government provisions to regulate the demolition of historic structures in the community.

As Dawson Historical Complex consists of numerous historical properties scattered throughout Dawson City, there are a wide variety of threats to the integrity of buildings and structures, including commercial and domestic development, and waterfront development. As well, permafrost and other climatic factors pose serious threats to the physical integrity of historical buildings in the community. As an example, according to the State of the Parks Report the Bigg's Blacksmith Shop has deteriorated from good to fair condition in 1994–1997, impairing its commemorative integrity. The stabilization of Bigg's Blacksmith Shop was placed in the business plan. Archaeological investigations commenced in 2000, and continued in 2001 as a preliminary step to the physical intervention on the building.

The story of the restoration of various historical structures and the replacement of decomposed original fabric with new components is not being told.

Some Level I buildings owned by others have plaques or signage explaining their national significance to the public.

KEY ACTIONS

- ***give priority to the protection, maintenance and public safety in the management of Level I resources;***
- ***develop and implement a long-term strategy for the preservation and maintenance of all Level I resources;***
- ***demonstrate leadership and collaborate with other owners in the protection, recording, maintenance and monitoring the condition of Level I resource heritage values, and keep others aware of government sources of financial assistance that may be available to them for this purpose;***
- ***identify and protect heritage defining features (including Federal Heritage Building Review Office designations) in the design and implementation of any changes to Level I resources;***
- ***inventory, record and maintain photo records, as-found plans and as-built plans for each Level I resource;***
- ***demonstrate leadership and collaborate with other owners of Level I resources to effectively communicate the national historic significance of these structures;***
- ***assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:***
  - ***present the heritage values of the Level I structures, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these values, and to monitor understanding of these values; and***
  - ***offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs, developed to gain a broad public and client understanding of Level I resource heritage values;***
- ***distinguish new materials or reproductions from original fabric in both Level I and Level II resources;***
- ***develop and implement a strategy which ensures that Level II resources associated with the site are managed in accordance with Parks Canada's Cultural Resource Management Policy.***

Moveable Resources

A considerable number of Level I moveable resources provide important documentation and communication of Dawson's role in the Klondike Gold Rush. Moveable resources of national historic significance will be identified, based on the following criteria:

- the objects are authentic artifacts whose provenance has been established through research and documentation; and
- the objects are directly associated with one of the HSMBC identified structures or persons in the Dawson Historical Complex during the era of the Klondike Gold Rush, 1896–1910; or

- the objects are directly associated with the full extent and impact of the Klondike Gold Rush on Canadian history.

Objectives

- evaluate all objects/collections relating to Dawson according to commemorative intent; identify, protect and maintain site-specific resources related to commemorative intent;
- ensure strategies are in place for effective presentation; and
- ensure access for research and presentation.

Leading Lady's Room, Palace Grand Theatre

Current Situation

Parks Canada maintains and curates a large artifact collection of historical objects and archaeological artifacts in the Dawson Historical Complex. Archaeological artifacts are also stored and curated in Winnipeg. The collections for Dawson City are maintained under controlled inventory in several storage facilities and on display. Routine maintenance and inspection are ongoing and lead to intervention, conservation and replacement, where appropriate, but the long-term conservation requirements need to be assessed and quantified. The collection is currently being evaluated to determine its relationship to commemorative intent; once identified, objects will be maintained in accordance with commemorative intent. Parks Canada currently shares artifact information with other institutions for research, protection and presentation. There is no emergency preparedness plan for the collection.

Parks Canada has also acquired a substantial collection of historical photographs depicting river transportation, historic Dawson City and the gold fields. It is maintained in a manual system which is being upgraded to an electronic database.

KEY ACTIONS

- ***identify, record and protect moveable resources (including those related to a Level I structure which no longer exists) and their records according to the Cultural Resource Management Policy. Develop a scope of collections statement and retain the collections which support the commemorative integrity of the site;***
- ***develop and implement a strategy for the long-term protection, maintenance and use (presentation and research purposes) of moveable resources;***
- ***develop and update exhibits to interpret the Level I and Level II structures and the diverse thematic relationships between them;***

- *collaborate with other authorities/owners in the exchange of information and the protection of records related to Level I resources of the Site;*
- *conduct material culture research to ensure authenticity and accuracy in the presentation of Level I messages utilizing artifacts, and make this data available to others;*
- *maintain a photographic reference collection to support the preservation and presentation activities at the Site, and make the collection accessible to others; and*
- *develop a Site contingency plan to preserve moveable resources in case of emergency.*

2.2 Messages

Strategic Goal

Reasons for the Site's national significance and its role in Canadian history are effectively communicated to the public.

The second element of commemorative integrity focuses on effectively communicating the reasons for the Site's national historic significance. Each of the elements of commemorative intent forms an important component of the messages which must be delivered if the Site is to have commemorative integrity. This means that visitors to the Site must understand not only the role of Dawson as it relates to the full extent of the Klondike Gold Rush, but also the role of this place in defining and communicating the full impact of the gold rush on Canadian history.

Effective delivery of these learning objectives also implies that the messages are based on research, knowledge, awareness and sensitivity to current historiography regarding the elements of commemoration. It also suggests that presentation is balanced. This means that various perspectives on the events associated with this Site are communicated. Moreover, the individual components of the story should not be treated in isolation, but be integrated into the presentation of the history of the Site as a whole. Further, changes to the Site over time are important to communicating the full story of this place. In the case of Dawson, the commemorative intent places a particular emphasis on the specific period of 1896–1910. Nevertheless, presentation of the Site's evolution over time will be important to communicating a full understanding of the national significance of this place.

To achieve commemorative integrity the two main learning objectives for visitors to the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada are as follows.

1. **Dawson as a historical complex associated with the full extent (1896–1910) of the Klondike Gold Rush.**

Messages supporting this learning objective include the role of Dawson as:

- the result of the larger phenomena of economic forces, events and personalities associated with the Klondike Gold Rush;
- a product of the specific demographic, economic and social forces of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and the resulting ideals associated with the frontier;
- a reflection of the character of the Klondike Gold Rush, including the international and cosmopolitan mix of people of many races and cultures and of all ages and both sexes;
- a commercial centre for the Klondike gold fields ensuring sufficient food, construction materials and mining equipment were available;
- a trans-shipment point between the riverboats bringing equipment and supplies into Dawson, and the road system and railway carrying them into the Klondike gold fields;
- the centre of a dynamic social life for the regional population;

- *collaborate with other authorities/owners in the exchange of information and the protection of records related to Level I resources of the Site;*
- *conduct material culture research to ensure authenticity and accuracy in the presentation of Level I messages utilizing artifacts, and make this data available to others;*
- *maintain a photographic reference collection to support the preservation and presentation activities at the Site, and make the collection accessible to others; and*
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- a commercial centre for the Klondike gold fields ensuring sufficient food, construction materials and mining equipment were available;
- a trans-shipment point between the riverboats bringing equipment and supplies into Dawson, and the road system and railway carrying them into the Klondike gold fields;
- the centre of a dynamic social life for the regional population;

- the centre of administrative, regulatory, legal and judicial services necessary for the successful development and operation of a placer mining camp;
- a centre providing transport and communication services between the Yukon and the outside;
- a centre providing industrial production, manufacturing and repairs services to the Klondike gold fields; and
- an example of the boom and bust communities typical of Canadian northern development and reflected in Dawson's architecture and urban streetscapes.

2. Dawson as a historical complex associated with the full impact of the Klondike Gold Rush.

Messages supporting this learning objective include Dawson as:

- an experience altering the collective imagination of Canadians and leading to a new vision of the north as part of Canada and its effects upon the development of northern investment and government policy;
- contributing to the international view of Canada as a northern nation;
- an exemplar for landscape-based Canadian literature and artistic impressions of the land;

Guided tour at the Dawson Daily News building

- a support of northern tourism using the idea of the northern frontier; and
- a symbol of the changes affecting northern Canada through the 20th century.

Objectives

- ensure Canadians understand the Site's national significance and its role in Canadian history;
- develop and maintain knowledge of the linkages between the messages of national significance and the Site's Level I resources and other related resources;
- develop and maintain knowledge of the structural and communication values of national significance as defined in Appendix 3; and
- ensure measures and measurement processes are in place to determine the effectiveness of message delivery.

Current Situation

Parks Canada currently uses a variety of delivery mechanisms to ensure that Canadians understand the Site's national significance and its role in Canadian history. There is some peripheral evidence of public understanding of the Site's national significance. This evidence includes post-visit letters, questions during visits, and visits to related sites. Client satisfaction associated with tours is 90%.

In recent years the program shift from themes and objectives to messages of commemorative intent may have resulted in gaps in current presentation programming. These gaps should be identified and addressed through assessing current interpretation.

Although messages of national significance about Level I resources owned by others are communicated through Parks Canada heritage programs, Parks Canada has not pursued joint messages with those owners.

KEY ACTIONS

- *assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:*
  - *give priority to presenting the Site's Level I messages, establish broad public and client learning objectives for them, and monitor public understanding of them;*
  - *use visitor audience information to develop appropriate programs to meet market needs;*
  - *offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs designed to gain a broad public and client understanding of Level I messages;*
  - *identify and present Level I commemorative linkages to other National Historic Sites of Canada;*
  - *where appropriate, fully integrate Parks Canada presentation programs for Dawson Historical Complex and the* S.S. Keno *National Historic Site of Canada;*
- *collaborate with the administration of other heritage sites included in the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park to reciprocate in the presentation of each site's respective heritage values; and*
- *collaborate with the other owners of Level I resources in the designated place to define the heritage values of these resources and to communicate those values to the public.*

2.3 Other Heritage Values

Strategic Goal

The heritage values of the place are respected by all whose decisions or actions affect the Site.

A third element of commemorative integrity is demonstrating respect for the Site's other heritage values. Beyond the values of national historic significance, the heritage values associated with Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada also include the important role played by the City of Dawson in promoting and protecting the designated place, and existing relationships between Parks Canada and the local heritage community of Dawson and the territory.

The local heritage community is comprised of the Dawson City Museum and Historical Society, the City of Dawson, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, the KVA and the Klondyke Centennial Society.

Additional heritage values comprise the related histories and interrelationships of Dawson Historical Complex and other National Historic Sites of Canada relating to the Klondike Gold Rush (i.e. Chilkoot Trail), industrial mining (i.e. Dredge No. 4), and to the history of river transportation in the Yukon (i.e. the *S.S. Keno* and *S.S. Klondike*).

Objectives

- Level II resources are managed according to the Cultural Resource Management Policy;
- the Level II messages pertaining to Dawson's history and development and its contribution to the history of the Yukon are communicated to the public;
- Dawson's membership in the larger national commemorative program of National Historic Sites of Canada and nationally designated persons, events and other aspects of Canadian history (especially Discovery of Gold, Father Judge, Martha Louise Black, Joseph Tyrrell, William Ogilvie and others) is communicated in Site presentation programs;
- Dawson's thematic relationship with other gold rush/mining historic sites and museums is effectively communicated;

KEY ACTIONS

- *assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:*
  - *give priority to presenting the Site's Level I messages, establish broad public and client learning objectives for them, and monitor public understanding of them;*
  - *use visitor audience information to develop appropriate programs to meet market needs;*
  - *offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs designed to gain a broad public and client understanding of Level I messages;*
  - *identify and present Level I commemorative linkages to other National Historic Sites of Canada;*
  - *where appropriate, fully integrate Parks Canada presentation programs for Dawson Historical Complex and the S.S. Keno National Historic Site of Canada;*
- *collaborate with the administration of other heritage sites included in the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park to reciprocate in the presentation of each site's respective heritage values; and*
- *collaborate with the other owners of Level I resources in the designated place to define the heritage values of these resources and to communicate those values to the public.*

2.3 Other Heritage Values

Strategic Goal

The heritage values of the place are respected by all whose decisions or actions affect the Site.

A third element of commemorative integrity is demonstrating respect for the Site's other heritage values. Beyond the values of national historic significance, the heritage values associated with Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada also include the important role played by the City of Dawson in promoting and protecting the designated place, and existing relationships between Parks Canada and the local heritage community of Dawson and the territory.

The local heritage community is comprised of the Dawson City Museum and Historical Society, the City of Dawson, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, the KVA and the Klondyke Centennial Society.

Additional heritage values comprise the related histories and interrelationships of Dawson Historical Complex and other National Historic Sites of Canada relating to the Klondike Gold Rush (i.e. Chilkoot Trail), industrial mining (i.e. Dredge No. 4), and to the history of river transportation in the Yukon (i.e. the *S.S. Keno* and *S.S. Klondike*).

Objectives

- Level II resources are managed according to the Cultural Resource Management Policy;
- the Level II messages pertaining to Dawson's history and development and its contribution to the history of the Yukon are communicated to the public;
- Dawson's membership in the larger national commemorative program of National Historic Sites of Canada and nationally designated persons, events and other aspects of Canadian history (especially Discovery of Gold, Father Judge, Martha Louise Black, Joseph Tyrrell, William Ogilvie and others) is communicated in Site presentation programs;
- Dawson's thematic relationship with other gold rush/mining historic sites and museums is effectively communicated;

- the history of First Nations in the Dawson region is effectively communicated;
- the role of the community and other organizations in the protection and presentation of Dawson's history is valued and encouraged (i.e. KVA, Yukon government, Dawson City Museum, churches);
- the continuing presence of First Nations people, government and the mining community in Dawson contributes to the sense of place;
- work cooperatively with other stakeholders to protect and present Dawson's history;
- Site programs acknowledge and respect the First Nations and mining communities in heritage presentation.

Current Situation

Heritage presentation programs at the Site acknowledge and respect First Nations and mining communities. Parks Canada is developing a First Nations trainee position with heritage programs and an internship related to the Tr'ochëk Heritage Site.

Messages concerning nationally designated persons are being communicated to the public through heritage programs. Parks Canada is working cooperatively with other stakeholders to present and protect Dawson's history through such initiatives as the Ridge Road Trail, and working with the Klondyke Centennial Society and the Dawson City Museum.

Dr. Brown's House

The condition of Level II Parks Canada-owned buildings in Dawson Historical Complex is declining significantly. As a result, the maintenance of historic streetscapes and the Level I values of designated place are at risk.

KEY ACTIONS

- *assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:*
  - *present the Site's Level II messages, establish broad public and client learning objectives for them, and monitor public understanding of them;*
  - *offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs designed to gain a broad public and client understanding of the Site's Level II messages;*
  - *identify and present thematic linkages with other National Historic Sites of Canada;*
  - *identify and present thematic linkages with other gold rush/mining sites in Canada and around the world;*
  - *identify and present the role of First Nations in the Klondike Gold Rush;*
  - *identify and present the history and reasons for maintaining Dawson City in its current state;*
- *collaborate with members of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in to identify resources and venues to present their history in the Klondike Gold Rush;*
- *collaborate with other community organizations to identify, protect and present other heritage values of Dawson City; and*
- *develop and implement a strategy to ensure that Level II resources contributing to the integrity of the designated place are preserved and maintained.*

3: A Place for People

ACCOUNTABILITY: Parks Canada will ensure opportunities are provided to visitors that enhance public understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and protection of the cultural heritage, appropriate to the Dawson Historical Complex as a National Historic Site of Canada.

To fulfil the mandate of National Historic Sites of Canada, it is important that people continue to experience the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada in ways that respect its cultural significance. Parks Canada will support and encourage opportunities to enhance public understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and protection of the national heritage that are appropriate to the Dawson Historical Complex as a National Historic Site of Canada.

Parks Canada is committed to ensuring that the Dawson Historical Complex remains a place for people. To enable this, specific management objectives and actions for visitor use have been defined. These objectives and actions for visitor use will be carried out within the context of the commemorative integrity management objectives and actions, as well as Parks Canada stewardship of the Site.

3.1 Heritage Tourism

Strategic Goal

To provide visitor opportunities based on National Historic Site values that foster appreciation of nature, history and culture in a sustainable manner.

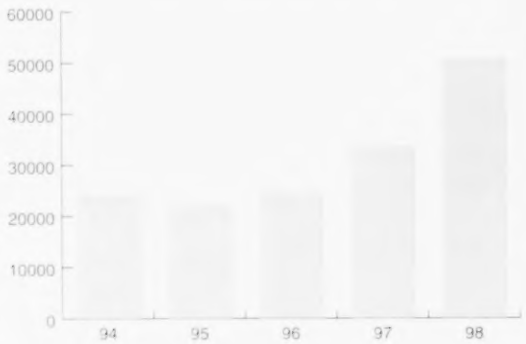
Current Situation

During the 1994 summer season, a visitor exit survey commissioned by the Yukon government was conducted at Dawson City. The survey determined the total number of people who visited Dawson City from June to September and provided information on visitors and visit characteristics, and gauged visitor reaction to existing and proposed developments.

Objectives

- use current marketing information to create opportunities for visitors to relive the experience of the gold rush and its resulting industries;
- promote, in conjunction with other stakeholders and operators, the Dawson Historical Complex as a destination area; and
- ensure that historic sites play a role in upcoming tourism initiatives.

Figure 5. Annual Visitation, NHSC in the Klondike



Dawson City attracts about 60,000 visitors overall per year, the majority of whom come from the United States. However, it also attracts the highest percentage of Canadian visitors of all the national parks and national historic sites in the Yukon. Canadian visitors tend to stay longer (4.0 days) compared to United States visitors (2.2 days). (See Figures 5 and 6)

3: A Place for People

ACCOUNTABILITY: Parks Canada will ensure opportunities are provided to visitors that enhance public understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and protection of the cultural heritage, appropriate to the Dawson Historical Complex as a National Historic Site of Canada.

To fulfil the mandate of National Historic Sites of Canada, it is important that people continue to experience the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada in ways that respect its cultural significance. Parks Canada will support and encourage opportunities to enhance public understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and protection of the national heritage that are appropriate to the Dawson Historical Complex as a National Historic Site of Canada.

Parks Canada is committed to ensuring that the Dawson Historical Complex remains a place for people. To enable this, specific management objectives and actions for visitor use have been defined. These objectives and actions for visitor use will be carried out within the context of the commemorative integrity management objectives and actions, as well as Parks Canada stewardship of the Site.

3.1 Heritage Tourism

Strategic Goal

To provide visitor opportunities based on National Historic Site values that foster appreciation of nature, history and culture in a sustainable manner.

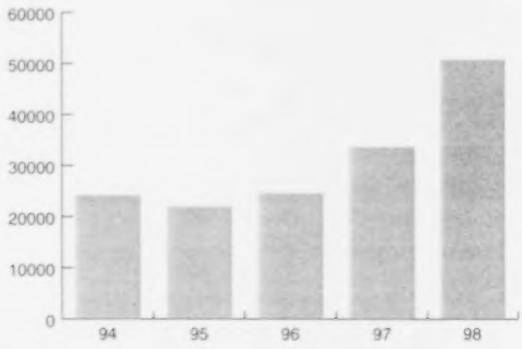
Current Situation

During the 1994 summer season, a visitor exit survey commissioned by the Yukon government was conducted at Dawson City. The survey determined the total number of people who visited Dawson City from June to September and provided information on visitors and visit characteristics, and gauged visitor reaction to existing and proposed developments.

Objectives

- use current marketing information to create opportunities for visitors to relive the experience of the gold rush and its resulting industries;
- promote, in conjunction with other stakeholders and operators, the Dawson Historical Complex as a destination area; and
- ensure that historic sites play a role in upcoming tourism initiatives.

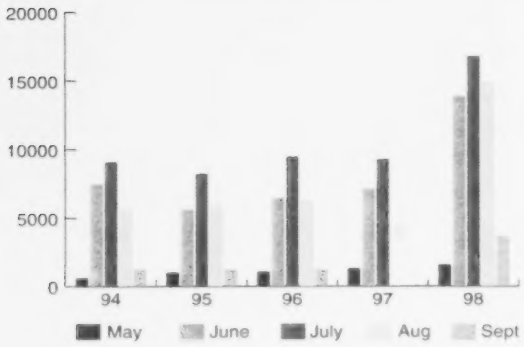
Figure 5. Annual Visitation, NHSC in the Klondike



Dawson City attracts about 60,000 visitors overall per year, the majority of whom come from the United States. However, it also attracts the highest percentage of Canadian visitors of all the national parks and national historic sites in the Yukon. Canadian visitors tend to stay longer (4.0 days) compared to United States visitors (2.2 days). (See Figures 5 and 6)

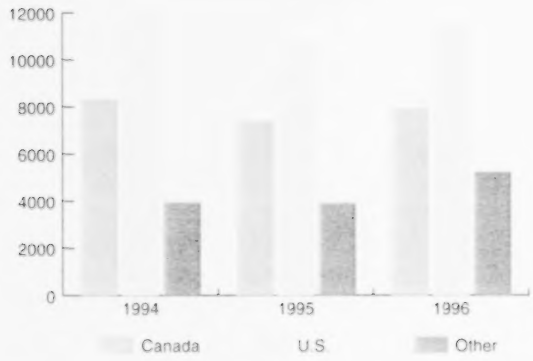
Figure 7 identifies Site users by their place of origin.

Figure 6. Annual Visitation by Month, NHSC in the Klondike



Half of the visitors surveyed consider Dawson City to be a planned stopover on their trip through the Yukon and Alaska. While there were visitor complaints about high prices and dust, as well as an insufficient number of campsites, more than 90% of the visitors indicated that Dawson City lived up to their expectations. Suggestions for future development of tourist facilities focused on more restoration of historic buildings and the development of a working placer mine.

Figure 7. Visitation by Place of Origin, NHSC in the Klondike



The visitor exit survey and the Dawson Historical Complex marketing strategy (developed in 1991) provided several major points that should be considered in defining the strategic direction for the Dawson Historical Complex:

- the history of the Klondike area is the major attraction for more than 40% of the visitors surveyed; and
- several of the cultural resources and structures associated with the Dawson Historical Complex could be more fully utilized if additional interpretative resources were available. For example, fewer than 30% of the total visitors to Dawson City and environs visit Bear Creek Complex and Fort Herchmer.

The four main visitor markets with growth potential identified for Dawson Historical Complex are:

Bus tour visitors: Dawson Historical Complex visitation is characterized by a low proportion of bus tour visitors. They traditionally travel on rigidly scheduled tours in Dawson City. The best target for the bus tour market appears to be American travellers who pass through Skagway, Whitehorse, Haines Junction, Beaver Creek, and Tok.

Alaska resident market: The Alaska resident market is one of the Yukon's major markets and a prime market to attract to Dawson City during the shoulder season. Alaska residents' proximity to the Yukon indicates there may be potential, through appropriate marketing efforts, for them to become shoulder-season visitors. The Top of the World Highway, open seasonally, is now paved from Dawson City to the Alaska boundary.

Circle tour market: Circle tours are people travelling through Alaska and the Yukon who generally drive independent vehicles to Dawson City by way of the Top of the World Highway. Recent estimates indicate that such tour travellers comprise approximately 25,000 individuals. Although this presents a good market opportunity for Dawson City and the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada, the attraction of this market is heavily dependent upon additional campground facilities and adequate road conditions.

Soft adventure travellers: While the soft adventure group is presently a relatively small visitor market, it has enormous potential for growth. There are a number of outdoor adventure operators who now include a visit to Dawson City as a side trip.

A marketing strategy prepared for the National Parks and the National Historic Sites in the Yukon in 1994 identified a number of initiatives for the Dawson Historical Complex. The strategy's overall objective for the Dawson Historical Complex identifies the need to increase utilization by increasing the number of hotel visitors to Dawson City generally, and by increasing the number of visitors who use campgrounds during off-peak periods.

KEY ACTIONS

- *collaborate with local, regional and territorial authorities to collect and analyse visitor research to identify appropriate actions that encourage essential Site presentation and services to meet visitor needs;*
- *collaborate with various tourism businesses and authorities to encourage the development and promotion of tourism products and services associated with the Site that enhance visitor understanding of the Site's Level I messages;*
- *collaborate with local government, the tourism industry/associations and the Yukon government in marketing tourism opportunities and services in the region and local community;*
- *collaborate with community businesses and organizations to support, where economically feasible, shoulder-season tourism opportunities;*
- *collaborate with other protected heritage sites/organizations/agencies in the promotion of heritage tourism opportunities at the regional and national level;*
- *collaborate with accredited education programs to develop and implement heritage interpretation accreditation and certification; and*
- *provide the tourism industry with timely information about fees, tourism opportunities and visitor safety, as well as impact to the Site's commemorative integrity.*

Group of visitors at the Commissioner's Residence

3.2 Visitor Services

Strategic Goal

To provide a range of recreational and tourism opportunities, facilities and services that enable visitors with varying interests and abilities to have a high-quality experience at the Site.

Current Situation

In recent years, the Dawson Historical Complex visitor activity program has matured considerably. DHCNHSC participates in the operation of the Yukon government's Visitor Reception Centre, which is used for orientation, exhibit areas, and audio-visual presentations. Visitors can participate in varied presentation programs.

Guided tours of the town core, Palace Grand Theatre and Commissioner's Residence are available daily from mid-May to mid-September. Special events, such as the

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Commissioner's Tea and Ball, Parks Day and special commemorations of historic persons, places and events, take place throughout the visitor season.

Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada is now working with other agencies in the community, such as the Klondike Visitors Association, the Dawson City Museum and the Yukon government. Each organization is also involved in communicating the history of the Klondike. Considerable effort has been made to develop the Dawson Historical Complex program to dovetail with these other organizations in order to complement each other rather than compete for the visitor market. Parks Canada has prepared and implemented an Access program for Dawson Historical Complex, and revises the plan on an ongoing basis.

Objectives

- ensure that all visitors have the opportunity to access information on a seasonal basis;
- work with partners to enhance and better coordinate visitor programs and services and avoid duplication with the main tourism players in the community;
- ensure participation and access to the Site for visitors with special needs; and
- provide and manage visitor programs, services, and facilities that meet the needs of the public in a safe and healthy manner while promoting public enjoyment, appreciation and understanding of the Site.

KEY ACTIONS

- ***collaborate with other tourism operators/ authorities and local businesses to provide visitors with an orientation to events, programs and services available in the community and surrounding region;***
- ***collaborate with local authorities, and disability support organizations to develop and provide alternate methods of presentation access (both physical and intellectual);***
- ***design and deliver Site programs which are appropriate to the Site's various client groups and which will provide basic comfort and safety to these visitors;***
- ***collaborate with other operators in the Site for scheduling programs and reviewing situations where visitor crowding is an issue; develop viable alternatives to minimize the crowding problem;***
- ***monitor visitor statistics on a regular basis and use market trends to guide investment, operational and marketing decisions for the operation of the Site;***
- ***as conditions warrant, replace signs and information to conform to the Parks Canada corporate identification strategy; and***
- ***give priority to protecting and presenting the Site's Level I resources and messages when providing visitor services and facilities.***

Parks Canada counter at the Visitor Reception Centre

4: A Place for Stewardship

ACCOUNTABILITY: In achieving protection and presentation for the Dawson Historical Complex, leadership is established by example, by demonstrating and advocating environmental and heritage ethics and practices, and by assisting and cooperating with others.

Stewardship involves both a leadership and participatory role. Varying degrees of cooperative action are inherent in all Parks Canada heritage activities. Parks Canada promotes the concept of an integrated family or network of heritage areas, and cooperates with provinces and territories in their protected area and heritage strategies.

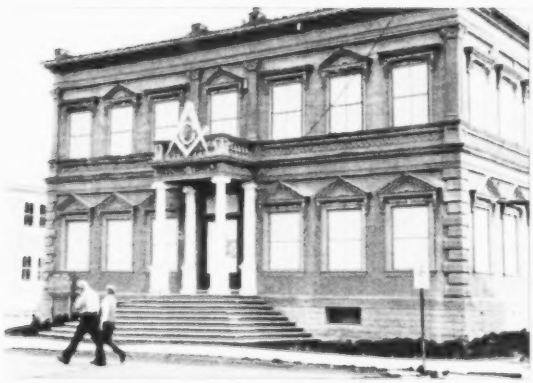
4.1 Working With Others

Strategic Goal

To ensure key policy, land use, and planning decisions are made in a timely and fair manner, are consistent in their approach, and are arrived at in an open and participatory manner.

Objectives

- demonstrate respect for all interested parties through ensuring public involvement at key points and decisions in the Parks Canada program;
- provide opportunities for the public to contribute their knowledge, expertise and suggestions concerning any aspect of the Parks Canada program;
- develop and welcome partnerships and relationships with other levels of government and organizations; nurture existing alliances and relationships, such as community and local organizations (eg. Klondike Visitors Association, Dawson City Museum, residents) and other governments (eg. United States, territory, First Nation and municipal);
- work with the United States on the development and implementation of the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park concept;
- commit Parks Canada, as a program, to a more comprehensive recognition of the role played by First Nations in Canadian history; and
- ensure that, where Parks Canada-owned Historic Sites are not a funding priority according to the commemorative integrity statement, Parks Canada will look for partnerships.



Carnegie Library

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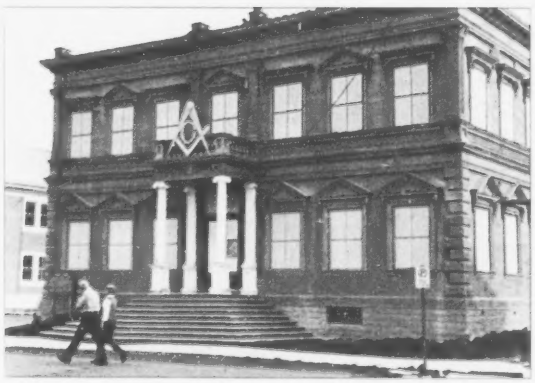

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Current Situation

In addition to public consultations, which were undertaken prior to the development of this Management Plan, Parks Canada meets with key stakeholders in the community, such as the Klondike Visitors Association, and the Chamber of Commerce, to advise them of the direction being taken in implementing the business plan. To date, no active relationship has been developed with other organizations in the management of the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park.

Site programs acknowledge and respect First Nations in heritage presentation. Parks Canada is developing a First Nations trainee position with heritage programs and an internship related to the Tr'ochëk Heritage Site.

Parks Canada is currently negotiating with a major corporate sponsor to produce three historical vignettes for television, and is actively involved with the Dawson City Museum and the Klondyke Centennial Society. Staff are being provided with training in the tourism industry through a program offered at Yukon College.

KEY ACTIONS

- ***collaborate with members of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in to present their perspectives on the historic consequences of the Klondike Gold Rush;***
- ***collaborate with the local community, appropriate agencies and other interests in the preparation of any major developments and the ongoing management of the Site;***
- ***collaborate with the U.S. National Park Service, Province of British Columbia, and the Yukon Territory to develop a cooperative management regime for Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park;***
- ***collaborate with the Yukon government, post-secondary educational institutions and other agencies in the development and implementation of education, outreach, interpretation and marketing opportunities associated with the Site; and***
- ***encourage volunteers, community groups, local associations and the general public to contribute to the development and operation of the Site.***

4.2 Operations and Administration

Strategic Goal

To apply the fundamental accountabilities, as outlined in the Parks Canada Business Plan, to the administration and operation of the Site.

All National Historic Sites and National Parks/National Park Reserves in the Yukon Field Unit, including the Dawson Historic Complex, are the responsibility of one Field Unit Superintendent. Within the Yukon Field Unit, operations of the Historic Sites and Parks are coordinated by superintendents located in Dawson City, Haines Junction and Whitehorse. Most Dawson Historical Complex staff are located within various Dawson Historical Complex buildings. The staff oversee a number of service and concession agreements that govern security, the relationship with the Klondike Visitors Association, the Yukon government, and other areas of the program. Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada is administered jointly with S.S. *Keno* National Historic Site of Canada and Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada. With the field unit structure, Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada staff can call upon additional support and expertise from other Parks and Sites in the Yukon, as well as within the Western Canada Service Centre (Vancouver, Calgary and Winnipeg offices). The National Office can be called upon to assist with policy interpretation and review.

Intermission at the Palace Grand Theatre

Other Dawson City buildings used by the Dawson Historical Complex for operational purposes include Dr. Brown's Residence, Black's Residence, Commanding Officer's Quarters, St. Andrew's Manse, Bank of British North America, Northern Commercial Company Warehouse, Oak Hall and the KTM Building. The Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada program has a central maintenance compound at the north end of the Municipality of Dawson City, and additional maintenance and collection storage facilities at Bear Creek.

Plan Implementation

Parks Canada will continue to focus on the maintenance of the Site's commemorative integrity and the provision of appropriate and cost-effective visitor services.

Parks Canada will use its business and work planning processes to consider the delivery and improvement of Site operations; describe the management strategies for the implementation of the plan; and prepare reports on the state of the Site. The business planning process will provide the mechanism to address the goals, objectives and management actions prescribed in this plan.

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Objectives

- adhere to the policies and guidelines specific to Historic Sites as outlined in the Cultural Resource Management and National Historic Site policy and in general to the Parks Canada program;
- establish leadership by example to demonstrate and advocate environmental heritage ethics and practices, and by assisting and cooperating with others;
- determine the implication of declining funds for current operations and future development, and ways to ensure wise and efficient use of resources;
- retain a core of staff well versed in management and maintenance of cultural resources in a northern environment;
- maintain an adequate inventory of resources to allow successful operations and administration; and
- undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the Dawson Historical Complex safety and security program to identify current and future safety and security requirements.

Current Situation

Parks Canada develops business plans to deliver and improve Site operations, and to address the goals, objectives and management actions prescribed in this Management Plan. In addition, a long-term strategy is being developed which identifies priorities for the protection and presentation of heritage resources, and the operations support infrastructure.

In administering the Dawson Historical Complex, Parks Canada considers commemorative integrity on a regular basis through the application of guidelines and instruments such as the Cultural Resource Management Policy and the National Historic Sites Policy. It monitors this integrity through the State of the Parks Report. Site staff oversee a range of duties, including heritage building recording and restoration, cultural integrity monitoring, curatorial work, collections management, conservation, heritage communications, asset and safety management, and other program services. Local staff also provide services on a field unit basis to *S.S. Klondike* and Chilkoot Trail National Historic Sites, and to Kluane National Park/Reserve and Vuntut National Park.

In recent years, the ongoing maintenance of buildings in the Dawson Historical Complex has been impeded by the focus on large stabilization projects, centennial events, and a reduction in human and financial resources. This has strained the capacity of local staff. Existing safety and security guidelines are incomplete, and while flood preparation plans are made annually, the Site does not yet have a comprehensive emergency preparedness plan.

Parks Canada achieves cost-effective service to clients through concessions at the Palace Grand Theatre, Robert Service Cabin, and the Old Post Office (which contribute to Site interpretation), the commercial rental of Madame Tremblay's, and residential rental of other heritage buildings. All tenants are screened for appropriateness, and functions which are compatible with the original use of the building are preferred. Rental fees are on par with local rates, and the Palace Grand lease was recently renegotiated in order to maximize returns in a partnership with the Klondike Visitors Association. Through consultation, Site user fees have been well-integrated into the program and are generally accepted by all parties. While the Site operates from June to mid-September, there are not enough staff to maintain heritage programs as well as satisfy the local and regional expectations to extend hours at the Visitor Reception Centre, nor is there enough staff to provide a modest outreach program in the off-season.

KEY ACTIONS

- *develop and implement a strategy for a phased approach to the appropriate stabilization of Level I and Level II resources, providing a series of costed projects for the Site;*
- *consult with affected interests in proposals to change Site user fees;*
- *manage Level I and Level II resources with the intent of finding appropriate occupants and uses to permit a maximum return on the lease of these facilities;*
- *actively seek out business opportunities to develop revenue generating initiatives and revenue management frameworks for the protection and presentation of the Site;*
- *develop and implement safety and security guidelines for the Site to meet occupational health and safety standards;*
- *develop and implement an emergency preparedness strategy for the Site;*
- *commit appropriate resources to full operation of the Site from June to mid-September with a modest off-season outreach program;*
- *utilize State of the Parks reporting to Parliament to monitor the state of the Site's commemorative integrity;*
- *review the structural and functional condition of the Site operations' support infrastructure and develop and implement a strategy to meets the Site's operational and administrative needs;*
- *conduct strategic environmental assessments of the Site management and sub-activity plans subject to the Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals; and*
- *utilize the* **Canadian Environmental Assessment Act** *(or its likely replacement, the Yukon Development Assessment Process) to assess the environmental impacts of projects before they are undertaken.*

4.3 Management Plan Environmental Assessment

An environmental assessment review of this Management Plan was conducted in accordance with the Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals Cabinet directive. The screening was carried out early in the Management Plan review to ensure that the environmental effects of plan initiatives were considered before irrevocable decisions were made. A companion document, *Environmental Assessment of the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan*, provides a detailed account of the results summarised here.

A workshop was conducted to identify Management Plan proposals capable of producing adverse environmental effects. Much of the plan proposes continued maintenance or restoration of existing buildings and other built structures. Plan implementation is therefore unlikely to generate significant environmental effects. Standard construction and restoration techniques will be employed. The impacts of these activities are insignificant or can be successfully mitigated with known technology.

Several initiatives in the draft Management Plan may result in increased visitation. A strategy should be developed to monitor and manage visitor impacts to cultural resources at the Site.

Portions of the Management Plan are conceptual and lack the detail necessary to assess environmental impacts. Further information is required before these initiatives and the projects they will generate can be adequately assessed. As specific projects are developed they will undergo environmental screening pursuant to the provisions of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA). Appropriate mitigative measures will be included in the assessments. Projects will not be implemented prior to environmental assessment review and approval from a responsible authority under the CEAA.

5: Implementation Strategy

The management plan provides long term strategic direction for Site managers. It is a framework for more detailed planning and decision-making, and a strategic reference for capital expenditure forecasts and future management and operations. Implementation of the plan is the responsibility of the Superintendent and Field unit Staff.

While the management plan establishes a long range vision for the site, it focusses on actions within a five year time frame. This implementation strategy sets out a series of priority actions for the next five years, all of them affordable within the current resources of the Yukon Field Unit.

The priorities will be linked directly to the Site's business plan and to the three year business planning cycle. The focus will be on the first three year cycle, although some priorities will be identified for the second. They will be grouped according to some of Parks Canada's service lines as part of the new planning, reporting and accountability structure. The priorities will lead to results in the main areas of accountability:

1) Ensuring commemorative integrity

2) Improving service to clients

3) Making wise and efficient use of public funds.

Progress will be determined through annual reporting on business plan performance and through the State of the Parks reports which are issued regularly.

The priority actions to be achieved over the next five years that are linked to the management plan are:

- Work co-operatively with the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in on the protection and presentation of the Tr'ochëk heritage site;
- Complete stabilization of Billy Bigg's Blacksmith shop;
- Develop a site contingency plan to preserve moveable resources in case of emergency;
- Offer programming to school groups to increase park/site awareness, understanding and support;
- Assist the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in with the preparation and delivery of First Nation heritage messaging at the Cultural Centre in Dawson City;
- Develop and implement an interpretive plan for Dawson Historical Complex which addresses both Level 1 and Level II messages and accessibility;
- Monitor Heritage presentation effectiveness through the completion of annual surveys (including continuation of the national client survey);
- Maintain or enhance current level of personal programming by ensuring that park/site heritage presentation positions are staffed by qualified individuals in a timely manner;
- Review training needs of heritage presentation managers and staff annually to ensure professional delivery of program;
- Develop and maintain a photographic reference collection to support the presentation and preservation activities at the site and make the collection accessible to others;
- Pursue partnerships with the Dawson City Arts Society and others for the management and presentation of some facilities and assets; and
- Pursue heritage tourism partnerships.

Appendix 1

Heritage Property Description

Discovery Claim National Historic Site of Canada (see figure 2)

The discovery of gold in the Klondike was an event that captured the imagination of the western world. More than 500 million dollars worth of gold was ultimately taken from the frozen ground. Tipped off by veteran prospector Robert Henderson, George Carmack and his fishing partners, Skookum Jim (Kèsh) and Tagish Charlie, searched the creek gravels of this area. On August 17, 1896, they found gold and staked the first four claims. A few days later at Forty Mile, Carmack registered the Discovery Claim in his own name, and one each for Skookum Jim and Tagish Charlie. Skookum Jim was sent to guard the claims on what Carmack renamed Bonanza Creek. Within days Bonanza and Eldorado Creeks had been staked from end to end, and when the news reached the outside world the Klondike Gold Rush was on.

Parks Canada administers several claims on Bonanza Creek surrounding the original Discovery Claim (which is a national historic site, designated in 1998, but not administered by Parks Canada). These claims, known as the Discovery Reserve, were removed from mining by order-in-council in 1970.

Appendix 2

People and Events: Approved HSMBC Plaque Texts

Martha Louise Black (1866-1957)

A legendary figure among northerners who admired her pioneering spirit, Chicago-born Martha Munger Purdy climbed the Chilkoot Trail in 1898 to join the Klondike Gold Rush. Later, she operated a sawmill near Dawson, and in 1904 married George Black, who served as Commissioner of the Yukon. Awarded the Order of the British Empire for volunteer work in Britain during the First World War, she was also made a Fellow of the royal Geographical Society for her research on Yukon flora. She became Canada's second female M.P. when she replaced her ailing husband for one term (1935-1940).

Canadian Bank of Commerce

Klondike gold! Buying and melting it into brick, brokering it on world markets, bankrolling entrepreneurs' huge inventories to last the northern winters — these and other important services were performed by the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Dawson, from the Gold Rush of '98 until 1989. Robert Service was among the clerks who worked here, before his poetry earned him financial independence and the honorary title "Bard of the Yukon." Built in 1901, this Renaissance Revival building is one of Canada's finest surviving structures clad in decorative pressed metal.

Former Territorial Court House

Concern that Dawson's law courts should convey an air of dignity and stability within the community prompted replacement of the original 1898 log court houses with this substantial frame building in 1900 - 1901. It was designed, along with several other federal buildings in Dawson, by Department of Public Works architect Thomas W. Fuller. As Dawson's gold boom dwindled the volume of court cases declined, and trials ceased to be held at this court house in 1910. It subsequently served as headquarters for the Royal Northwest Mounted Police.

William Judge, S.J. (1850-1899)

Father William Judge is remembered as the "Saint of Dawson". An American Jesuit missionary, he went to Alaska in 1890 to work among the Indians of the lower Yukon. He moved to Forty Mile in 1895, and when gold was discovered near Dawson he followed his parishioners there in 1897. Judge devoted himself totally to the physical and spiritual well-being of the miners. He built Dawson's first hospital, St. Mary's, and for one year single-handedly ran both it and his church. He was well-loved by the local people and his death caused widespread mourning throughout the community.

William Ogilvie 1846-1912

A native of Ottawa, William Ogilvie became a Dominion Land Surveyor in 1872. Through his participation in the Canada-Alaska boundary survey and exploration of the Mackenzie River, he effectively completed mapping the northwestern corner of Canada. He was one of the earliest authorities on the Yukon and author of The Klondike Official Guide, 1898. As Commissioner of the Yukon, 1898-1901, his intimate knowledge of the country contributed to its peaceful evolution during the turbulent years of the Klondike Gold Rush.

Joseph Burr Tyrrell, 1858-1957

A member of the Geological Survey of Canada, 1882-1899, and a private mining consultant thereafter, Tyrrell devoted his life to uncovering the mysteries of the vast Canadian landscape. He was a pioneer in the search for gold and other metals in the Klondike and Northern Ontario. He surveyed much of Western Canada and provided the first accurate information on the Hudson Bay region and the Barren lands of the Northwest Territories. He is widely recognized for his work on glacial geology and his recovery and publication of the journal of David Thompson. Born in Weston, Upper Canada, Tyrrell died in Toronto.

Yukon Hotel

When it was built in the fall of 1898, the Binet Block stood at the southern end of a business district extending north to King Street. A two-storey log building with a facade of milled lumber, it was typical of commercial structures built at the height of the Gold Rush. The lower floor with its large windows was meant for commercial use, the upper for residential. Between October 1898 and October 1900, the Federal Government rented it for offices. During the next fifty-seven years, it was used as a hotel, under such varied names as The Miner's Rest, The Freeman, and The Yukon Hotel.

Discovery Claim

The names Robert Henderson, Skookum Jim, Tagish Charlie and George Carmack are inextricably linked to the discovery of gold on Boranza Creek. Henderson was the first to systematically explore the gold bearing potential of the region, only to have the major find elude him. Then on 17 August 1896 Jim struck gold, and with his companions Charlie and Carmack staked the first claims. A few days later at Forty Mile, Carmack in his own name registered the Discovery claim where this monument stands. Within days Bonanza and Eldorado Creeks had been staked and when the news reached the outside the Klondike Gold Rush was on.

Appendix 3

Structural and Communication Values of Buildings Identified by the HSMBC

Each of the nationally significant buildings identified by the HSMBC contributes both physical and associative values important to the commemorative integrity of the National Historic Site. These values are determined by the relationship to designated place and the messages of national historic significance and are summarized below.

The North West Mounted Police (NWMP) Married Quarters

The North West Mounted Police (NWMP) Married Quarters is an integral component of the Fort Herchmer complex of police buildings representing the federal government presence in the early period of Dawson's history. It is valued for its close association with the NWMP; its role in establishing law and order during the gold rush; the exercise of Canadian sovereignty in the northern territories; and its important role in the development of the community. The physical resource is defined by its log construction, low-walled, low-pitch form, surviving interior elements, and its setting in the Government Reserve with other early NWMP structures.

Former Territorial Courthouse

The heritage value of the courthouse is defined by its role as a major public building contributing to the federal government presence in Dawson's formative era. Architecturally, its heritage character relates to its formal, classically-inspired design and detailing, remarkable for its richness in such a remote location. This building has values for its important historical associations, its architecture, the high standards of craftsmanship, and its importance as a Dawson landmark. It is a rare example of a turn-of-the-century courthouse built in wood.

Post Office

Built in 1900, the post office was designed by federal architect Thomas W. Fuller. In use until 1923, it illustrates the establishment and exercise of Canada's sovereignty through the construction of imposing federal buildings. It also signifies the importance of communications with the world outside the Yukon. The building is an excellent example of a pre-1914 wooden post office, gaining its heritage character from its design, the quality of interior workmanship and materials, and as a rare example of a federal building displaying every detail of its original purpose and design.

Commissioner's Residence

Another Fuller building, the Commissioner's Residence (1901) was an architectural statement of the extension of Canadian government administration into the Yukon Territory. The building's prominent location within the community and its imposing facade, a renovation completed in 1908, reinforced the roles of administrative and social leadership exercised by the Commissioner. This strong presence in the community is also reinforced by the landscaping and built features of the yard.

Ruby's Place

Ruby's Place, built in 1902 as a lodging house, is associated with the theme of prostitution in Dawson. Ruby's Place is valued for its illustration of Dawson's social history during the gold rush and its aftermath, especially the gender imbalance that prevailed. Its architecture, which imposed an elegant Edwardian false front on a vernacular wood structure, well illustrates the boom town character which is integral to the national historic significance of this community and its cultural landscapes.

Klondike Thawing Machine Company

Limited seasonal access to Dawson from outside, together with the need to transship freight to the goldfields, made warehouses and storage buildings of great importance. The heritage character of the KTM building (1899) is defined by its false front, simple frame construction and the large windows facing the street.

Robert Service Cabin

The cabin of the poet Robert Service is one of the few residences in Dawson dating from the Klondike Gold Rush. The cabin is noteworthy for its association with the "Bard of the Yukon" and its representation of the vernacular character of the many small residences erected by newcomers in the earliest period of Dawson's development. Architecturally, its heritage value resides in its low-lying form, its fabric, design, and the rustic character of the site.

Palace Grand Theatre

The association of the Palace Grand Theatre with the romantic excitement and frontier glamour of the gold rush is reflected in the fanciful wooden false front facade of this building. The arrangement and size of spaces within the theatre reflect the character of Dawson's imported and locally prepared entertainments. As the building is a 1962 reproduction of the original turn-of-the-century building, the structure's values are associative and do not include the fabric of the building itself.

Red Feather Saloon

The large plate glass windows, framed with roman pillars of wood, expose the attractive and ornate interior inviting passers-by into this reconstructed 1902 saloon. Associated with the active social life of Dawson, the building's history reflects the important role of public places in a community where many residences were confining, airless cabins. The saloon's place amidst other reconstructed structures on Third Avenue contribute to the overall atmosphere of contemporary Dawson.

Bank of British North America

The original log building used by the Bank of British North America burned in April 1899, and the present fireproof structure was built by Big Alex Macdonald later the same year. Its heritage character is defined by its location in the heart of downtown Dawson, its massing, surface finish of corrugated iron sheeting and the quality of its interior fittings and furnishings. The role of banks in connecting an important new mining area to the international financial world through their assay office and banking services is an important element of its commemoration.

Billy Bigg's Blacksmith Shop

Originally constructed as a hotel in 1899, this building became a blacksmith shop in 1907. Over the next half century it housed blacksmith operations that provided service to individual and corporate miners until Billy Bigg's retirement in the mid-1950s. The building's contributions to the heritage character of Dawson are based upon its connections and services to the goldfields, and to the agglomeration of additions and modifications to the original structure that are typical of the its many and varied uses.

Dawson Daily News Building

Serving as a warehouse for the first ten years of existence, the Dawson Daily News building (1900) was modified in 1910 to become the home of the local newspaper. The newspaper played an important role in informing the world about life in the Klondike and establishing the enduring mythology of the north. The building's heritage character is defined by the high false front and its simple frame construction.

Yukon Hotel

Constructed in the fall of 1898, this two-storey log building, with its facade of milled lumber, was typical of commercial structures built at the height of the gold rush. Between October 1898 and October 1900, the building was rented by the federal government for offices; during the next 57 years it was used as a hotel. Its physical values lie in its milled log construction and well-designed facade featuring a flared cornice and decorative brackets where the false-front meets the eaves of the gabled structure behind. The building illustrates the common tendency in Dawson to conserve scarce materials by re-using buildings to serve the needs of a variety of occupants.

Canadian Bank of Commerce

Noted for its distinctive and rare pressed metal facade, this bank branch was designed and constructed in 1901. The building's physical values lie in its elaborate classical Renaissance styled facade, which presents the image of stability and permanence in the context of a gold rush town. The building symbolizes the role of financial institutions in Dawson's history, especially in buying and assaying gold, and in financing commercial development of the community from the gold rush era to 1989.

Carnegie Library

Built in 1903-04 with a grant from the Carnegie Foundation, this two-storey building is remarkable both for its form and the role it played in the cultural life of a remote gold rush town. As a library, the building connected the people of Dawson to the wider world through books and magazines and through the many meetings held there. The building's most distinctive physical values are its pressed metal facade and interior, stylistically organized into a symmetrical classical Renaissance design, with a classical entrance portico as the central focal point. The colour and texture of the surface evoke the image of a stone building, imparting a sense of permanence and refinement in this frontier setting.

St. Paul's Anglican Church

The Anglican Church has played a significant role in the life of the Yukon's people. The Church Missionary Society first sent a missionary to the First Nation people of the Yukon basin in the 1860s. In June, 1897, an Anglican minister arrived in Dawson to serve the spiritual needs of the miners flooding into the territory. The growth of the congregation led to the construction of the present structure in 1902. Its continuing use as a church makes it one of the few buildings in present-day Dawson that fulfils its original function.

Caley's Store

A fine example of the Edwardian commercial architecture built at the turn of the century, Caley's store was originally a combined furniture/upholstery shop, restaurant and boarding house. Within a decade it had been converted to a rooming house, reflecting the demand for transient housing in the community. The building represents the diverse commercial functions provided by Dawson to the surrounding gold fields, and is noteworthy for its false front, large shop windows and the cantilevered box bay windows on the second floor.

Appendix 4

Analysis of HSMBC Recommendations for DHCNHSC

This appendix reviews the major recommendations of the HSMBC with regard to the commemoration of the historical complex at Dawson City. Few explicit references to the reasons for the Dawson designation appear in the Minutes of the HSMBC. The Minutes for the fall 1959 meeting suggest the Board's original impetus to designate Dawson buildings was in response to initiatives by the Minister to develop the tourism potential of the Yukon Territory and the Minister's "concern about restraining the encroachment of commercialism upon truly historic features". The Board recommended "that Dawson be regarded as a 'historical complex' of national importance and studied as such" (HSMBC Minutes, November, 1959, p.4).

The recommendation concerning the "historical complex" confirms the Board's intention that the identified buildings in Dawson be commemorated as an ensemble, rather than as individual structures. In terms of thematic associations, the Minutes also suggest a close relationship between the designation of this complex of buildings and the theme of gold mining, especially the Klondike Gold Rush. The connection is made explicit in the HSMBC recommendations of June 1967: "that the commemorative undertaking at Dawson should deal with the full extent of the Gold Rush and its impact on Canadian history".

The gold rush relationship is also apparent from the succession of recommendations in which Dawson and gold mining are treated as components of a larger program of research proposed by the HSMBC. When the Board met in Dawson in June 1967, it reviewed the "Dawson complex," and examined four aspects of "the matter": "1) Museum Pieces; 2) Buildings; 3) Gold Mining Equipment; 4) Transportation Equipment". As a priority, it recommended "that arrangements be made to collect, catalogue, and where required acquire the wealth of material literally 'lying about' the Dawson area, related to the history of the Gold Rush. This material includes the contents of the museum and various buildings". From the foregoing, it is clear that the initial commemoration of Dawson was inseparably linked to the history of the gold rush.

In terms of commemorative intent, the HSMBC plaque texts for Dawson and some of the buildings are helpful. The text for Dawson confirms the association of the commemoration of Dawson with the gold rush of 1898. It also notes that large mining companies held most of mining lands within three years of the rush.

Plaques have also been erected for the Yukon Hotel and the former Territorial Court House in Dawson. National historic significance for the Yukon Hotel is based upon the statement that the hotel was "typical of commercial structures built at the height of the Gold Rush". The social and administrative functions of the building are also noted in the text. The Court House plaque anchors the commemoration to the gold rush through reference to the original 1898 building. The focus is on the structure which replaced it, however, a "substantial frame building" to "convey an air of dignity and stability". The association with architect Thomas W. Fuller, designer of other federal buildings in Dawson, is also noted. The period of commemoration is bounded by the reference to the use of the structure as a court house until 1910.

The accumulated Board recommendations and plaque texts suggest that the commemoration of the Dawson historical complex relates both to the association with the Klondike Gold Rush and the period of consolidation of Dawson as an urban centre in the Yukon Territory following the rush. The specific aspects of Dawson's role are not explicitly mentioned, although references to the role of the courts and the North-West Mounted Police in the Territorial Court House text underscore the importance of governmental and administrative functions in Dawson's development. Moreover, the choice of particular buildings for designation implies other components of Dawson's commemorated role. The two banks point to Dawson's role as a financial centre, while the selection of the Bonanza and Yukon Hotels, Ruby's Place, Palace Grand Theatre, and Red Feather Saloon suggest the importance of Dawson as a centre of social life in the territory.

The period of commemoration can be taken from the recommendations and the plaque texts. Virtually all nationally-designated structures were built between 1898 and 1903. The Married Officers' Quarters, Yukon Hotel and Robert Service Cabin are apparently the only designated buildings dating from the actual gold rush of 1898 or its immediate aftermath. Most of the commemorated Dawson buildings were built in the period of consolidation following the gold rush, during which Dawson's status as the principal commercial, financial and government centre in the Yukon Territory was confirmed. While the intended closure date is not explicit, the cessation of use of the second Territorial Court House as a law courts in 1910 seems an appropriate date for the completion of the consolidation of the town following the gold rush.

Appendix 5

Level II heritage structures

Within the Dawson Historical Complex there are a number of Level II heritage structures that contribute to the historic streetscape and are owned and managed by Parks Canada:

B.Y.N. Ticket Office
Madame Tremblay's Store
Lowe's Mortuary
Oak Hall
Harrington's Store
Third Ave. Complex
West's Boiler Shop
Black Residence
Dr. Brown Residence
N.C. Co. Warehouse
NWMP C.O.'s Residence
Ft. Herchmer Jail
Ft. Herchmer Stables
St. Andrew's Church
St. Andrew's Manse
Carriage Sheds
Macauley Residence

Glossary

Commemorative Integrity	A historic place may be said to possess commemorative integrity when the resources that symbolize or represent its importance are not impaired or under threat, when the reasons for its significance are effectively communicated to the public, and when the heritage value of the place is respected.
Cultural Resource	A human work or a place which gives evidence of human activity or has spiritual or cultural meaning, and which has been determined to have historic value.
Cultural Resource Management	Generally accepted practices for the conservation and presentation of cultural resources, founded on principles and carried out in a practice that integrates professional, technical and administrative activities so that the historic value of cultural resources is taken into account in actions that might affect them. In Parks Canada, Cultural Resource Management encompasses the presentation and use, as well as the conservation of cultural resources.
Federal Heritage Building Review Office	An interdepartmental advisory body responsible for identifying which federal buildings merit designation as federal heritage buildings, and for monitoring the conservation and continued use of these buildings.
Heritage Tourism	An immersion in the natural history, human heritage, the arts and philosophy, and the institutions of another region or country that creates understanding, awareness and support for the nation's heritage.
Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC)	A board of appointed members representing all provinces and territories of Canada, which reports to the Minister (of the Environment). The Board receives and considers recommendations regarding the commemoration of historic places, the establishment of historic museums and the administration, preservation and maintenance of historic places and historic museums, and advises the Minister in the carrying out of his or her powers under the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act*.
Historic Value	Historic value is a value or values assigned to a resource, whereby it is recognized as a cultural resource. These values can be physical and/or associative.
Level I Cultural Resource	A cultural resource that is of national historic significance. It directly relates to the reasons for a site's national significance.

Level II Cultural Resource	A resource that is not of national historic significance may have historic value and thus be considered a cultural resource.
Management Plan	A management is a strategic guide to future management of a national park, national historic site or national marine conservation area. It is required by legislation, guided by public consultation, approved by the minister responsible for Parks Canada, and tabled in parliament. It is the primary public accountability document for a national park, national historic site or national marine conservation area.
National Historic Site	Any place declared to be of national historic interest or significance by the Minister responsible for Parks Canada.
State of the Parks Report	Biennial report which assesses the ecological and commemorative integrity of Canada's national parks and national historic sites, services offered to visitors, and progress in establishing new heritage places. It is approved by the Minister and tabled in Parliament.
World Heritage Site	A cultural or natural site that is designated as having outstanding universal value by the World Heritage Committee, according to its criteria. The committee was established to oversee implementation of UNESCO's 1972 World Heritage Convention.
Yukon Field Unit	An administrative unit of Parks Canada, based in the Yukon, responsible for the management of the following heritage places: Chilkoot Trail NHSC; *S.S. Klondike* NHSC; *S.S. Keno* NHSC; Dawson Historical Complex NHSC; Dredge No. 4 NHSC; Kluane National Park/Reserve and Vuntut National Park.